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We beg leave to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications; and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

#### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Mr. Gerald Balfour's speech at the Cutlers' dinner and Lord Inverclyde's letter are the first absolutely authentic announcements of the meaning of Mr. Morgan's combination as well as of the Government's answering action. If the Government is not wholly absolved from the premature charges of sleepiness much of the wild talking has been discredited. It is easy to overrate the wisdom but not the historic importance of the step. The Government has made agreements, which are to last for twenty years, both with Mr. Morgan and the Cunard Line. The compromise agreed upon with Mr. Morgan is designed with the object of keeping the lines combined by him "British not only in name but in reality". On the undertaking of our Government not to show prejudice against any company in the combination Mr. Morgan promises that the majority of the directors, and a reasonable proportion of the crews are to be British. The vessels are to fly the British flag, and to be officered by British officers; and Mr. Morgan also undertakes that half the tonnage which in the future may be added to the combination shall be built for the British companies.

The arrangement made with the combination is an acknowledgment to some extent of surrender to America; as twenty years is little in the life of a nation the safeguard of national interest, if temporarily adequate, has no sign even of potential permanence. The relations of the Government with the Cunard Line are of better and more lasting quality. The Government is to lend money—at the rate of 2½ per cent. interest, the capital to be repaid by annual instalments extending over the twenty years—for the building of two fast vessels of over 24 knots. When these are built a yearly Government subsidy of £150,000 will be paid to the Cunard. In return the Government will have the right to charter or purchase if need be the whole of the Cunard fleet; and the company will agree neither unduly to raise freights nor to give preferential rates to foreigners. It is pledged to remain a purely British undertaking and the management, shares and vessels are to be in the hands of British subjects. The arrangement has at least a business-like air and however little it may do for trade

it has this double merit that it encourages British shipping without elevating the grant of subsidies into a system or even a precedent, and it will give the Navy that reserve of rapid mercantile marine, the want of which had become a weakness since the building of the "Deutschland" and others of her class. The reason why they were not built before was that the amount of coal required to get the extra two or three knots after 22 is out of all proportion to the attainment.

The day following Mr. Gerald Balfour's announcement the shareholders of the Canadian Pacific Railway held a meeting; and the decision they came to is more full of meaning than has been appreciated in England. The directors are authorised to inaugurate a line of steamships for the Atlantic trade whether or no Government consents to grant a subsidy. The negotiations with the Government are still proceeding, but a decision can scarcely be arrived at till after Sir Wilfrid Laurier's return. But in any event the directors feel that it is imperative, now the Canadian Pacific has found its power, that it must be so situated as to be independent on the Atlantic. There has been alarm in Canada ever since the sudden rise in Canadian Pacific shares that the Americans were attempting to get a controlling interest among the shareholders; and this decision to establish a fast line between Canada and Liverpool has been prompted, not only by ambition for commercial development, but by the direct menace of Mr. Morgan's combination. When the new lines are started the holding of shares is likely to be safeguarded on the same principles as our Government's arrangement with the Cunard Company.

It is just as well that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach resigned when he did; but one may wonder at the reason. His speech at Bristol, at least in the final section, proves that he was never more himself than now. The war, the fiasco in China, the growth of empire have brought upon him this single conviction, that the time has come for retrenchment: for a reduced army, for a stationary navy. It is amusing to see that now he has gone from the ministry the Liberal press has decided to commend him as the best type of the old-fashioned Tory; and if the phrase predicates such obstinate reliance on the past as was the mark of the Tory squire of fiction the commendation is deserved. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, who evidently enjoyed the freedom which he could claim as a private member, touched the centre of the present trouble at the War Office when he said that promotion had too often depended on other qualities than professional efficiency. But the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer by his dreary insistence on the evils of extravagance made it too clear that his

desire to reform the War Office is due less to a sense of its technical inefficiency than to a mania for financial retrenchment, a mere dislike of spending. He reached some excellent conclusions by false premises.

In the Cape Parliament on Tuesday Colonel Crewe, on his motion that the Government should proceed with the new registration of voters, urged that this should be the last session of the Parliament. The position is an extraordinary one. Sir Gordon Sprigg, fearing that the ten vacancies, if filled up might not give him his Progressive majority, delayed to issue writs and instead of trusting to the elections secured a majority by going over to the Bond. More than this the percentage of disfranchisements and the changes in registration have been such that the present set of members are utterly unrepresentative of the constituencies. It is Sir Gordon Sprigg's clear duty, as Dr. Smartt insisted, to complete the registration and take the sense of the country as soon as the estimates are passed. Instead, Sir Gordon Sprigg makes a petulant complaint that loyalists are conspiring to drive him from the office which he loves; and makes this imaginary conspiracy his justification for selling his party, contradicting the principles of constitutional government and snubbing loyalist deputations. The "Cape Times" practically announces a revolt of the Progressives, and suggests its opinion of him by dubbing him "the little minister".

Lord Milner's first journey of inspection through the Western Transvaal has done much not only to add to his own knowledge of the feelings of the people but to make the people well acquainted with him. A deal of trouble has been taken by a number of people to convert Lord Milner and Mr. Chamberlain into the sort of bad bogey with which children are frightened. The more ignorant Boers are no doubt ready enough to believe the ludicrous stories of their dramatic badness. The very appearance of Lord Milner, his readiness to discuss with the people their prospects, his prompt correction of any slips of justice that he came upon seem to have surprised the people and pleased them equally. As the telegrams suggest they have been used to patriarchal government. No doubt a part of Mr. Kruger's influence was due to his shrewdness as a judge, and the country is full of the tales of his judgments. The immediate grievances which were told to Lord Milner on the village greens were chiefly concerned with the difficulty of getting oxen and building material; and he had many questions to answer about the coming of the compensation money. On the whole the spirit of the people was satisfactory and there were more signs of quarrels among the different parties of the Boers than of sullenness towards the English.

It is a happy comment on the impudent demand in the manifesto of the Generals for "a large sum" to educate the children of burghers that the largest item in the Budget of the Orange River Colony is for education. Many of the Boers with whom Lord Milner conversed showed both eagerness for education and some appreciation of the educational work in the camps. The account of the finances of the Orange River Colony gives astonishing proof of the success with which the government of the country was carried on while it was still ringed with war. The accounts even show a balance for the completed financial year, though the result is largely attained by the absence of expenditure. In the Transvaal the reopening of the Barberton and Pietersberg gold mines caused a rush almost as if a new field had been discovered. It is a good sign that the confidence in the mines in Africa is not greatly affected by the diffidence of the European Stock Exchanges.

A succession of announcements have appeared in the German press that the Boer Generals are to have an audience with the Kaiser. At least half that has been said on the subject may be discounted; but some of the information has the air of being inspired and certainly an interview is being discussed between the Generals and the German authorities. There is not

the slightest objection to the German Emperor interviewing as many British subjects as express a desire to see him and discuss the prospects in South Africa. On the other hand one should admire a man with such numerous business avocations for putting aside an hour for the concerns of people who have only their own interests to serve. But it is hard to understand why this possible meeting should have aroused such wide interest. It really does not matter at all whether the Generals see the Emperor or whether they do not. He is much too good a friend of England to encourage the Generals as he encouraged Mr. Kruger on a certain occasion; and he is much too careful a guide of German interests to put himself out for the sake of people who have no particular concern with his country. It should be enough for the three musketeers that they are the only people from whom the German army has consented to take a lesson in modern tactics. Perhaps it is tactics that the Kaiser will discuss with them.

Lord Dudley's term in Ireland has begun with a series of trials for more or less seditious utterances, and with the extension of the Crimes Act. The perverted activity of the United Irish League made the steps necessary and the Government has done what in Cape Colony Sir Gordon Sprigg has feared to do. But Lord Dudley, if he may be identified with the sentiments of his opening speech, is happily not one of those politicians, and they have been too common, who are likely to judge Irish problems or Irish people by the help of vicious analogies. We are, or were, a commercial people; the Irish always have been an imaginative people, and the only hope of a happy conclusion for the misunderstandings between Irish and English is some interchange of qualities. If Ireland had the commercial prosperity of Lancashire there would be an end of the Irish question. The Canadian Pacific Railway killed the annexationist movement in Canada. In the same way the extension of railways, the development of the country and its industries, are the true remedies for Irish unrest. Lord Dudley is right. Commerce might save Ireland; politics are likely to continue to ruin her.

The Revenue Returns just issued are excellent. The Exchequer receipts for the past six months show an advance over the corresponding period of the previous year of no less than £7,282,634. The only moral which the taxpayer will be inclined to extract is that in circumstances of such abounding national prosperity it is quite clear he is overtaxed. Customs, Excise, Estate Duties, the Post Office have all gone ahead in a way which must be exceedingly gratifying to the new Chancellor of the Exchequer, and unless there should be a serious falling off in some direction in the next half-year, he is assured of a good surplus. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach expected an advance of four and a half millions in Customs duties on the year: the increase on the six months falls short of that figure only by £67,000. Such expansion in the national income inspires confidence that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will see his way next spring to consider other claims than those of the Debt and the Sinking Fund.

The favourable rains which have recently fallen throughout India seem to have now assured good harvests and easy prices in all provinces. There is no longer any reason to fear that the shadow of famine will darken the Imperial celebrations at Delhi which are to usher in the New Year. Reports recently circulated concerning Lord Curzon's health fortunately prove to be groundless. The great Durbar will, it is now certain, attract many visitors of distinction besides the Duke of Connaught from England. Fresh from the ceremonies at Westminster they will be able to compare the pageantry of the West with the most picturesque display of Eastern magnificence which India has seen since the days of the great Moghul emperors. The political significance of the gathering will give it a place in history quite apart from its spectacular grandeur. Not even Akbar himself could have collected so vast an assemblage of loyal India at his capital. For this reason alone the function scarcely

needed the vigorous and powerful defence which Lord Curzon has offered to those captious critics of Indian affairs who find it their duty to oppose every measure of the Government. There can be no doubt about either the popularity or the advantages of an assemblage which draws together all the chiefs and rulers of India in common homage to their Sovereign under conditions so entirely in accordance with native tastes and precedents.

The outbreak in Macedonia and Albania comes as an unpleasant reminder to Russia that it is not always easy to keep a storm, even one of your own raising, under proper control; and it hints to the world that behind the outbreak is "the Shadow", and that not "the Shadow" round which Mr. Cust's wit so often played when the "Pall Mall Gazette" "blazed the comet of a season". It was obvious that the Shipka Pass celebrations would encourage the Macedonian revolutionaries, and so before the Grand Duke Nicholas Nicholaievich started on his journey the arch-conspirator Sarafof was arrested, and even Prince Ferdinand's dummy President of the Macedonian League was taken in charge by the police. According to all the Russian rules of the game this should have ensured quiet in the insurrectionary party, but unfortunately the Bulgarian ex-colonel Jankoff was left out of the calculation. In the Balkans there are plenty of men, with nothing to lose and everything to gain, and Jankoff, seeing his principal rivals laid by the heels, took immediate advantage of the opportunity and started raiding on his own account with a body of 3,000 brigands, amateur and professional. The ways of Russian diplomacy are so subtle and tortuous that Jankoff may well be excused for imagining that he was playing the Tsar's game, when he saw his Prince, accompanied by a Russian Grand Duke and generals and diplomatists in full uniform, celebrating on Turkish territory a victory over Turkish troops. A simple-minded peasant, for Jankoff is little more, could not be expected to understand the delicate shades of his patrons' diplomacy, and in his simplicity he took the field at the wrong time of year. The snow will soon be falling on the mountains, and all good Macedonian brigands go home to their winter quarters when that happens. The European Chancelleries are praying for an early winter, and as for Jankoff, if he does not keep out of the way, he will, like so many others of his kind, fall a martyr to excess of zeal.

On Monday morning Émile Zola was found in a dying state by the servant who came to wake him, and he died before a doctor could be found. A postmortem examination was held and the doctors in registering the cause of death marked their astonishment at the unusual perfection of his constitution: the loss of the greatest living novelist was due to a miserable accident in the regulation of a gas stove. It is no detraction from his genius to say that his imagination was of such a calibre as it is natural to associate with a powerful physique. Hisgreat capacity for hard work, another attribute in the inevitable comparison with Balzac, did not constitute his genius, but it perhaps made possible the ruthless thoroughness of his realism and gave courage for the compassing and undertaking of his huge scheme. His genius no one will dispute, not even the Academicians who would not admit him among the select. But the justification of his methods and matter became the subject of violent discussion from the moment of his death. Perhaps this could not be avoided; but it is a pitiable thing that the political animosities which were aroused by his championship of Dreyfus should have re-emerged in all their bitterness upon the news of his death. It is more fit while the pity of his death is fresh chiefly to remember the fact of his genius. What has the Dreyfusard, or the Republican, or the Semite or the anti-Semite to do with that?

We wonder what the late Mr. John Walter would have said to the leader in the "Times" on the late M. Zola. It is not so many years since Mr. Vizetelly was cast into prison for publishing a translation of Zola's novels. And here we have the "Times", the organ par

excellence of the hyper-sensitive morality of the upper middle class, devoting a leading article to a searching and enthusiastic appreciation of the Rougon-Macquart series, and particularly "La Curée"! Matthew Arnold would have been delighted by this exhibition of rakishness in the representative of the bourgeoisie, whose want of knowledge of life he was always deploring. The truth is that the British public was so pleased with the part Zola took in the Dreyfus affair that its opinion of his books underwent a revolution, which was of course as illogical as the opinions of that body usually are.

The annual conference of the National Sea Fisheries Protection Association was held this year not in London but at Grimsby. Perhaps in a different atmosphere the meeting would not have pleaded so unanimously for a Government Fishery Department. Everyone will admit the great national importance of the fisheries; and in this industry, as in commerce, the advantages of applied science have been neglected. Too little, for example, has been done in the investigation of the habits of deep-sea fish. Regulations are wanted as to the protection of fisheries and the prevention of undersized fish being killed, and in many ways, such as the extension of telegraph facilities, more help might be given by Government. But the confidence in the reformatory power of a department is hard fully to appreciate. When the deputation waits on Mr. Balfour he will no doubt feel that the desire for a new department is a real, if unconscious, compliment to existing departments. But where is the multiplication of departments and the expense they entail to stop: at fisheries, at railways, at motors?

On Thursday Lord Reay made the usual annual statement of the work of the London School Board. With intention, wider perhaps than he confessed, he began with a succession of illustrations of the hard work which membership of the Board entailed, giving a rather needless testimonial to the labours of the members. There is no desire to call in question their self-devotion. His indication that it is still difficult in some places to obtain efficient teachers goes to prove that the payment of teachers; much as it has increased, is still less than it should be. Whatever the economies of the future the proper payment of teachers and due reduction of pupils allotted to each must not be compromised. It is only in this way that primary education may hope to be as successful in training character and intellect as in imparting more or less indigestible pieces of knowledge. The increase in the percentage of attendances, which, it is remarkable, is highest among the Jew communities, is good sign at any rate of the growing appreciation of the work of education.

Important alterations in the organisation of the London Fire Brigade have been suggested by Captain Wells and are likely to be agreed upon. Some exaggerated and inaccurate sketch of these reforms has been published, and a rumour that Captain Wells was intending to resign gained some publicity till it was officially denied by Captain Wells himself. There is need of reform both in equipment and in men. The City requires a new station, which shall make it independent of the Southwark station; and both the City and the outlying districts are in need of more personal control. Reformation is likely to proceed very much on these lines. The new City station will probably be begun soon and some additional officers, selected possibly from naval men, will be appointed.

On Wednesday and Thursday next at Oxford will be celebrated the tercentenary of the Bodleian Library. The chief ceremony will be the holding of a congregation in the Sheldonian followed by the giving of degrees; and representatives of libraries from all over the world will be present. But the library itself is what they will come to see. Wherever the Bodleian may be put in the category of libraries there is no place in the world so instinct with the sentiment which gives their value to the riches of a library. Adaptation to environment was never more philosophically illustrated than in that most typical corner of Oxford where the

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Radcliffe and the Old Schools stand. It would literally take a thousand years to make such another home for the books of the ages. The public orator on Thursday will no doubt put into unimpeachable Latin King James' "unfulfilled condition": "if I were not a King, I would be a University man; and if it was so that I must be a prisoner, I would desire no other durance than to be chained in that library with so many noble authors". But it was Sir Thomas Bodley who did the good thing, not King James, who after his manner said it, that will deserve the honour. It has been pointed out that two of his descendants, and of his name, men of distinction in art and letters, will be present. Sir Thomas Bodley, according to Shakespeare's iterated theme, "lives twice".

There appears to be a slight hitch over Mr. Carnegie's intended gift of thirty thousand pounds for Free Library purposes in Marylebone: several brazen people in authority dare to criticise the offer in its present form. Mr. Carnegie might justly feel ruffled. But why before now has he not seen his way to come to the aid of one of the great English Universities? If we are to believe a writer in "Blackwood's Magazine", who makes an imposing parade of his figures, Oxford greatly needs capable financiers. Here then is a great chance for Mr. Carnegie. He might add a commercial wing to, say, the Bodleian. And we are sure he would feel so entirely at home at Oxford; would so soon be steeped in the spirit of the place that is always "whispering from her towers the lost enchantments of the Middle Ages".

American Rails have been extremely active and occupied chief attention in stock markets. At the commencement of the week the unexpectedly favourable statement of the New York Associated Banks imparted a steady tone to this section, but prices subsequently relapsed sharply, and the market in Wall Street became quite demoralised owing to the extreme tightness of money. The announcement that in future American banks will not be required to carry a reserve against Government deposits afforded considerable relief to the New York money market, which resulted in a general advance in prices, but speculation has been checked to a certain extent. The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fé Railroad Company have declared a half-yearly dividend at the rate of 2 per cent. on the Common Stock. The Bank of England rate of discount was raised on Thursday to 4 per cent., the movement having been rendered necessary by the heavy falling off in the reserve which has diminished £2,712,274, the total now being £23,616,229 or 448 per cent. of the liabilities compared with 53½ per cent. last week. The advance in the official rate, although not unexpected, had at first an adverse effect upon markets, but an improvement quickly took place on the removal of uncertainty.

Home railway traffics were once more of a satisfactory nature, those of the North-Eastern and Great Northern being the only poor showings on the list. This market, however, remains dull in the absence of support. The announcement is made that the Midland Company have purchased the Belfast and Northern Counties Railway. The willingness of buyers of Consols to pay 4½ per cent. in order to continue their operations for the month points to the fact that there is still a weak bull account open in the premier security. It is announced that Japan will offer in London next week a five per cent. loan of fifty million yen, or five millions sterling; it is expected that the issue will be made at par. The Buenos Ayres Great Southern Railway, after transferring £5,000 to the pension fund, announces a balance dividend of 4 per cent., making 7 per cent. for the year for the fourth successive time, and carrying forward the substantial balance of £93,390. as compared with £15,900 a year ago. Kaffirs after being weak improved on purchases against options, and closing of bear accounts. Westralians have shown some slight signs of activity, but stagnation continues to prevail in the West African department. Consols 93\frac{1}{4}. Bank rate 4 per cent. (2 October).

THE CUNARD AND THE COMBINATION.

WE much doubt whether the public, after looking coolly into the matter, will be so complacent as Mr. Gerald Balfour was at Sheffield on Tuesday in setting out the terms of the arrangements with the Anglo-American Shipping Combination and the Cunard Line. The so-called safeguards against the former are We have still to trust to Mr. Pierpont Morgan's good intentions and benevolence towards us and to Mr. Pirrie's and his fellow-directors' patriotism, which has been so conspicuous from the outset. With empressment Mr. Balfour dwelt on the provisions that the directors of the companies should be British and that a "reasonable proportion" of the men on board the Trust's vessels should be British. The first is no restriction at all. It alters nothing. The real point is who will form the executive of the Trust; who will direct the general policy; who will form the Federal Government over the several firms? For the success of Trusts, as we had occasion to say recently, it is essential that the executive should exercise a strong controlling and directive force over the operations of the individual members of the Trust. The initiative, the policy, the energy must come from it, and if failure is not to result, especially where a Trust is so overcapitalised as the Combination is, it is absolutely necessary that power shall be concentrated in the hands of the executive in order to secure the best business management. But the agreement says nothing about the constitution of the Trust's executive. It is left exactly as it was before; and the original fears that we expressed about American control of the Trust are as valid to-day as they were when Mr. Pirrie vouched for Mr. Pierpont Morgan's innocence of intention towards British trade. The arguments then were towards British trade. The arguments then were that it mattered nothing, so long as the Trust was under American control, that the British firms kept their British flags flying. They are now just as they were then. There are no more British representatives on the executive now than were provided for by the constitution of the Trust. We have nothing by which we can retaliate on the Trust if it takes measures for injuring British trade. Trust if it takes measures for injuring British trade. No provision binds it, as the Cunard Company is bound—in Lord Inverclyde's language—"not to unbound—in Lord Inverclyde's language—"not to unduly raise freights or to give any preferential rates to foreigners"; and if it were so bound how could we punish it? Not by withdrawing any subsidy because we do not have any hold over it by giving one. We have agreed, in consideration for the empty undertakings it has entered into, to continue to treat the companies of the Combination on an equality with other British companies in respect of any equality with other British companies in respect of any services, whether postal, military or naval, which the Government may require from the British mercantile marine. If we had not made the agreement we might have done something in this way, but now we have not even left ourselves any means of retaliation. A more futile pretence of a "sanction" to an agreement could not be made than that contained in the clause which provides for putting an end to the arrangement on the part of the Government. Passing by the objection that the Government gains nothing of importance even if the agreement is carried out, what does the Combination lose if the Government puts an end to it? This it may do in the event of the Combination pursuing a policy hostile to the British mercantile marine, or hostile to British trade. Let it be supposed that in some way or other the Government gets an advantage by the agreement. It wants to retain this in face of some policy hostile to British trade started by the Combination. It threatens to withdraw from the agreement. The Trust says Do so: we lose nothing by that but the chance of getting some of your work under contract. We shall be exactly in the position we were in before the Combination entered into any tion we were in before the Combination entered into any agreement with you at all, when you were in such a panic about its formation. All the precautions about the British flag and the British directors, and British manning of vessels go by the board, and we are not hit by anything which can induce us to give up the policy we have decided on.

The case of the agreement with the Cunard Line is quite different. Here is a substantial bargain in

which something is to be done on each side which it can fairly be argued is for the other. Here is a definite policy, and the Cunard Line has engaged very definitely to aid in carrying it out. The restrictions placed upon it mean something, and if the conditions are not observed the subsidy, a very considerable one, can be withdrawn. So far as the naval policy is concerned the Government secures its object and retains a control over the Cunard which has been lost over the vessels belonging to the Trust. We have induced the Cunard by a substantial subsidy not to leave us in the dilemma in which we have been left by the Combina-tion. The Cunard has now perhaps no motive, or at least it has not so much, for joining the Trust. It is in a better position than it was for competing in ordinary shipping business with what might have been a rival too formidable successfully to compete against. That is the value to the Cunard Line, in spite of Mr. Gerald Balfour's protest that the subsidy does not go beyond paying for the actual services rendered to the Government. We are not finding fault with the principle. On the contrary we would proclaim it openly. If we can keep the mercantile trade of the Atlantic or any other ocean in the hands of British traders by subsidies we would subsidise. The Cunard Line has been retained, and indirectly the agreement does some-thing for British trade. It is because the nation was thing for British trade. It is because the nation was anxious about the effect of the Combination on the British shipping trade that it hoped some definite course would be taken for the purpose. Evidently the agreement with the Combination has no such protective effect; and in the case of the Cunard, where the agreement has some such effect, we have an apology for the only element in that agreement which produces it. And what is the apology? An argument about conceding to the Americans a fair share of the trade in the Atlantic! Mr. Gerald Balfour would seem desirous of applications the leganders politoness of the British of emulating the legendary politeness of the British at Fontenoy with their request to the French to fire first. That is not business and it was not the American's idea of business when they planned the combination. Was that scheme designed on a nice discrimination as to what was a fair division between England and the United States? This might as sensibly be argued as that this is the principle on which the Trusts have ruined, that this is the principle on which the Trusts have ruined, or are trying to ruin, every trade but their own in Mr. Pierpont Morgan's country. Mr. Gerald Balfour's doctrine of an a priori fair share of trade is absurd. Every nation will try to get as much as it can regardless of other people's "fair share". We have to take this into account, and if our trade is threatened with Trusts, or any other modern device, we must adapt ourselves to the actual facts, even though it is "our cousins on the other side of the Atlantic" who are trying to cut our throats. The operation is none the pleasanter for the relationship. The particular question of the ultimate success of the Combination in the fight for the Atlantic trade is yet in doubt. It subserves other the Atlantic trade is yet in doubt. It subserves other American Trust interests which affect our trade very seriously. If it does succeed, are we to take Mr. Gerald Balfour's doctrine as to subsidies as intended to be a declaration that Governments have no duty in such matters? That is an impossible doctrine held by no other nation in the world but England—if indeed held

#### SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH ON ECONOMY.

A STATESMAN who has sat in Parliament for nearly forty years and served his Sovereign in high office for nearly twenty years has not only earned his repose, but is in an ideal position to give his countrymen advice. When Sir Michael Hicks-Beach speaks "with the freedom that belongs to a private member but with the knowledge that official life has given him", his words are well worth heeding. It is impossible not to discern in the ex-Chancellor's speech on Monday at West Bristol a subacidity of tone which suggests that if, as he reminded us, he has successfully financed the most costly war we have waged for a century, the feat has been accompanied by a good deal of friction between him and his colleagues. The temper of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach has never been one of the sweetest,

and we can well imagine that when he "spoke plainly" to the Cabinet about the growing expenditure, some heat was generated. Some traces of this unpleasantness are we think observable in Sir Michael's remark that the credit of the successful termination of the war was much more due to "the patience of the great English people" than to the Government. There is much truth in this, of course. It is idle to compare Great Britain with countries governed by an autocrat like the Tsar of Russia or by a quasiautocrat like the German Emperor. But we feel pretty sure that France would not have persevered with this war for two years and a half. Every reverse would have been followed by a change of Ministry, while a disaster like Colenso would probably have brought about a change of dynasty. The patience of the English people and their confidence in the ultimate issue, were really very remarkable, and quite deserve Sir Michael's tribute. But the member for West Bristol might have remembered that the War Office despatched nearly 300,000 men to South Africa, and that its organisation was only intended for the equipment and despatch of an army of 70,000 men. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach indeed admitted that Mr. Brodrick has been confronted with an impossible task, namely, to reform the War Office and to carry on a great war at the same time. But now that the war is over, we hope that what Sir Michael says about War Office expenditure and appointments in the army will be laid to heart by the Secretary of State. No action can be taken until the Commission of Inquiry, from which the ex-Chancellor of the Exchaquer we will not say hopes, but expects piquant disclosures, has reported. We are not at present in a position to say what are the defects in the financial administration of the War Office, and we therefore leave the subject alone. But with regard to "the selections for appointments and promotion", every man of the world knows that "outside influences" are allowed to interfere in a manner that as Sir Michael says, "would never be tolerated in any well-organised department of the Civil Service". Why this should be so is not very clear, unless it is because it is more difficult to decide upon the merits of an officer than of a civil servant, or because, as John Bright once very rudely said, "the Army was a huge system of outdoor relief for the sons of the aristocracy". Whatever the . Whatever the cause of this outside interference, it is generally recog-nised that in future it will have to be exercised more rarely and with greater discretion. That favouritism and social influence will disappear from the management of the Army, we do not believe, human nature being what it is. But officers of brains, who take their profession seriously, will certainly have a better chance of advancement than heretofore, and that alone will be a great reform, for which we ought to be thankful.

ought to be thankful.

But it is naturally on the subject of our national expenditure that the words of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach will carry most weight. Sir Michael has been custodian of the public purse for seven years and in two administrations, those of 1895 and 1902. The only difference between the former Chancellor of the Exchequer and the SATURDAY REVIEW has been on the subject of Free Trade. We have thought and said plainly more than once, that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach missed opportunities of broadening the basis of taxation by a recurrence to the tariff; and we have been irritated occasionally by what seemed to be the mechanical repetition of economic formulæ learned in the days of Stuart Mill. But apart from his adherence to the doctrines of his youth, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach has been a very good Chancellor of the Exchequer, a much more successful one than his predecessor, Lord Goschen, with all his early City training. Sir Michael applied his surpluses in a judicious manner to statesmanlike purposes, and he raised huge loans without disturbing the national credit on the money market. We are therefore all the more impressed (and we may add the better pleased) by the grave warning which he addresses to the nation on the growth of our annual expenditure. Extraordinary expenditure upon a war does not of course affect the question. But in the last seven years our ordinary expenditure has increased at the rate of

In the decade the ordinary national expenditure has increased 40 per cent. and the population 10 per cent. "If they did not stop", exclaimed Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, "a shilling incometax would probably be insufficient for the means of the country even in time of peace, and the people who now complained of a small tax on sugar and corn would be face to face with heavy taxation, not only on these, but on many other great articles of popular con-sumption". Exactly: and it is not until these people are face to face with taxation, we do not say heavy but reasonable taxation, on some of the great articles of popular consumption, that we shall have any movement from the constituencies to check this great and growing evil of public extravagance. That is just the reason why we are and always have been in favour of indirect taxes, because they are the only taxes which the masses pay, and they do not feel those which they contribute at present. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, as a Free Trader, has to be sure other remedies. He thinks that the nation could do with a smaller if a better army, and that for the coming year at all events there is no necessity for increased expenditure on shipbuilding. Great Britain has just made such an enormous addition to the Empire that we doubt the feasibility of diminishing our naval and military expenditure at present. If we are to prevent its automatic increase, we agree with the member for West Bristol that we must remember that finance depends upon policy. To borrow an that finance depends upon policy. To borrow an Americanism, we have bitten off as much as we can chew, and a quiescent and conciliatory foreign policy for a few years to come would not be a bad thing. We must not try to occupy the whole earth, and we should occasionally recollect that other nations have their aspirations and dreams of expansion. But that there will be any consistent and effective demand for economy from the voters until articles of consumption economy from the voters until articles of consumption are taxed, we do not believe.

#### COMPROMISE AND THE EDUCATION BILL.

THE air is full of proposals termed compromises by their authors with intentional or unintentional irony designed to transform the Education Bill. of them are not easily distinguishable from schemes for absolutely depriving voluntary schools of all their characteristic features. They are one and all from the Bishop of Hereford's scheme, devised by him in conjunction with Dr. Paton a nonconformist minister of Nottingham, down to Mr. Birrell's and Mr. Perks' unmixed nonconformity and inconsistent with the principle of the Bill that the voluntary school as an organisation for denominational teaching shall remain unaffected. They are all propositions that distinctive religious teaching shall in future be supplied by the denominations extraneously and independently of the school system. In the Bishop of Hereford's scheme the clergy or ministers of the denomination are to have free access to the school at suitable times for the purpose of giving denominational instruction to the children of parents who desire such instruction. The management of the school is to consist of one-third appointed by the of the school is to consist of one-third appointed by the denomination which owns the school, one-third of managers appointed by the Local Education Authority, and the remaining third by the parish meeting or through the parish council. The necessary rules as to prayers, hymns, and general Biblical instruction would be made by the Local Education Authority. All the schools under the County Councils or the Boroughs would be subject to these rules, so that no distinction would exist between what are now denominational schools and those we know as Board Schools. Whatever religious teaching were given as part of the school ever religious teaching were given as part of the school curriculum would be arranged by an outside authority and not by the denominational management. If this scheme, extraordinary as being supported by a Bishop, does not take the management out of the hands of the denomination altogether we cannot imagine what would. All that is left to them is the right to require that the head teacher shall be a member of the denomination. The other posts would be open to members of any religious denomination. This concession really emphasises the

fact of the virtual extinction of denominational schools as such under a scheme of this kind. It is the Board School plan of indistinctive religious teaching in which teachers of every shade of opinion that can be called religious may take some part however perfunctorily.

It is a perversion of language to call such proposals as these compromises. A compromise in this matter can only be an arrangement which leaves the ordering of the religious teaching with the denominational managers while it places them in every other respect under the control of a public authority. The Education Bill goes as far as it is possible in the direction of popular control without giving up the principle of the denominational schools, though alterations in detail as to representation on the Trust body, or in the direction of some such compromise as that suggested by Sir Wm. Walrond, may be still open. Unless that principle is surrendered none of the so-called compromises could be incorporated in the Education Bill. If the denominationalists insist on its being preserved there can be no escaping the fight to the finish to see which is the stronger party, except by the Government throwing over the whole of its educational policy. This would mean that a comof its educational policy. This would mean that a com-prehensive system of national education would become impossible. Mr. Haldane has shown that the Liberal party could not establish a general School Board system if they came into power to-morrow, and it would find itself in a worse position than that in which Mr. Gladstone was in 1870 when with a large majority he failed to accomplish this very thing. Another withdrawal therefore of the Bill would be a betrayal of education by the only party which has any chance of giving us a Bill which, in the opinion of all the educational authorities, is inspired by truly educational and not sectarian aims and which has not been devised by churchmen but by experts in education. If the Bill is to be killed it ought to be in fair fight and the party who kills it will then bear the odium. There are rumours that the Government is intending to give way to what Sir John Gorst calls all those sectional interests by which measures are decided in the House of Com-mons quite irrespective of their merits. Mr. Balfour's letter on Friday should be assurance sufficient as to the Government's intention to see the thing through. Mr. Chamberlain is maliciously supposed to be hastening to Birmingham to a conference with the Liberal Unionist party where he is to find himself in a dilemma between his former position of an advocate of the Universal School Board solution, as Mr. Haldane calls it, and that of a member of the Government which has a Bill for settling the difficulties on lines which alone have a possibility of success. If the opponents of the Bill were amenable to anything in the shape of which have convinced men who not lost their heads through the fumes of sectarian passion, Mr. Chamberlain would have a very easy piece of work before him. The impertinent suggestions that have been made that the inconsistency of his position affords him a chance of becoming the head of the forces ranged against the Government by de-manding on behalf of the Liberal Unionists the con-

cession of popular control are merely venomous sneers. Do the School Board fanatics of Birmingham suppose that popular control can be obtained only by retaining the School Board system? That system is only an accident. Since Mr. Chamberlain declared himself strongly against giving public money to denominational schools without popular control many things have happened. If in those days money had been given to denominational schools outside the School Board system it would have been given, as the grants in aid have been given, from taxation. For many years an injustice was committed by leaving these schools to starve without assistance. The grants in aid redressed to some extent this grievance and the practical necessity of these grants has had to be accepted as a feature of our educational system unless and until they are superseded by other financial arrangements. Then came the financial arrangements under the Education Bill and these men have sufficient sense to see what folly it is to talk of martyrdom for the difference between rates and taxes. Moreover at the same time there is established a machinery of popular control such as was originally intended to

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supervise the School Boards. Mr. Forster's educanow under a more perfect system of local authorities. Now under a more perfect system of local authorities the Education Bill proposes that a committee of a county council shall control all the schools, voluntary as well as others, which are intended by it to form part of one co-ordinated system of education. In what way is a man to be convicted of inconsistency because on reviewing these facts he believes that the principle of public control does not stand or fall with the machinery of board schools? He sees that the question of rate aid to voluntary schools has come to be one of educational expediency; and it would be a poor sort of consistency to persist in a sectarianism which, if successful, would throw back the education of the country for years. He will call a call. education of the country for years. He will only ask himself what the safeguards are that the money given to the schools shall be spent for valuable educational objects. Mr. Chamberlain would have no difficulty in showing that the form devised by the Education Bill is one approved by the best educational authorities in the country, and that only on grounds altogether remote from education is there any possible reason for the pre-posterous opposition that is being raised against it.

#### ÉMILE ZOLA.

NOWADAYS in the hour of death comes the day of mortal judgment. A great, or even a merely notorious, man does not pass away without the instantaneous appearance of judgments that are most often cursory, inadequate, ridiculous. On Monday morning the news spread over Paris that Émile Zola, sleeping in his bedroom, had been asphyxiated and sent into a deeper sleep. Before his eyelids were set in death or his body was cold the yellow press of Paris appeared full of anecdotes and notes that were insulting in their praise or despicable in their censure. Lucien Millevoye said (in effect), Let us forget the traitor and rascal and remember only the man of letters. A day later he and remember only the man of letters. A day later he pointed out, with characteristic insolence, that though the man of letters might be forgotten, the rascal and traitor would always be remembered. But after all these things are nothing: the calumny of imbeciles counts for nothing; but it is a pity that journals entitled to consideration should not have allowed themselves. to consideration should not have allowed themselves a few days for the consideration that Zola, not less than themselves, deserved.

We do not propose to sin in this way in paying our tribute to a man who had done, or all but done, his lifework manfully and gone to his rest. But a tribute of some sort is peremptorily demanded. For years past Zola has been the most striking figure in French literature: so commanding a figure in literature was he that when he mingled in politics he did not call the attention of other nations so much to the man Zola as to the peculiar nature of French politics. For nearly a generation the eyes of all men have been turned upon him; he

has died, died tragically, and the world is very much the poorer; and now that he lies on his deathbed the eyes of all are turned upon him in sorrow with as much intensity as ever they were in admiration or hatred while he was yet in life. In rendering our tribute we can venture no more than to remind our readers of the vast amount of work he has done, of the tremendous fields he undertook to explore and the manner in which he explored them. No rigorous comparisons with Flaubert, or even his mighty forerunner Balzac, can be made; nor dare we criticise the niceties of his art—an

art (for art it was, of a sort) unlike anything the world

had seen before.

One cannot think of Zola, however, without making one or two harmless comparisons between him and two other giants of the past century. In most respects no authors could be less like Zola than Balzac and Victor Hugo; yet they had this in company that their cuttures. Balzac and Victor Hugo; yet they had this in common: that their output was enormous. The mere number of pages in their books is in each case astounding. We believe that the words in Shake-speare have been counted; probably the task has been done for Hugo; and should it ever be done for Zola he will be found not far, if at all, behind his compatriot. And further they have this in common: that

each wrote a series of novels intended, taken all together, to yield a picture of certain phases of life. There is Balzac, with characteristic audacity, trying to give us the whole of life; there is Hugo with denunciations, or accusations, of the forces of nature that seem to war against mankind; and lastly there is Zola with his picture of French life as he saw it over a period of about three generations. There the comparison ends—and perhaps it does not amount to much. All we see is that the three men were thoroughly French in their determination to systematise. Had they been born into a younger France, or rather into France before she was rejuvenated, they might have been amongst the Encyclopædists and had their biographies written by Mr. John Morley. In method Zola stands nearer to Balzac than to Hugo. Hugo's vast and sweeping modes of dealing with Hugo's vast and sweeping modes of dealing with things we know; we know how he poetised, idealised, romanticised, and let the grey facts of life go hang. We know how Balzac joyed in character above all things—for was it not his greatest boast that he had "created" more than three thousand characters in the "Comédie Humaine"? Zola started out with a single family and showed how it spread, and the various destinate of its different members from the resid of destinies of its different members, from the period of the Second Empire until the fall of France at Sedan; and the number of his characters is comparatively small -though many another novelist would be proud of half as many, for they amount we believe to twelve hundred. All three men were of the tribe of giants: theirs was a ceaseless, irresistible volcanic energy—the energy of mother nature; they belonged to an order that is now extinct. Board schools and penny magazines and half-penny journals in England have nearly destroyed the class of readers who could rejoice in long books; and it is unlikely that we shall for a long time produce the type of creative genius who will have the power to write them. France has yielded to a passion for mere prettiness, for a kind of half-hearted animalism described in a delicate, dainty manner that is called style.

Tolstoi is the one European—if European he can be called—with a touch of the old naïveté, sincerity and colossal force which led the authors of an older time to We by no means attempt seemingly impossible tasks. assume that to have written a long book shows genius; but at any rate to conceive a gigantic plan and carry it out consistently shows a power that is sadly lacking in Europe to-day.

Zola set about his task as none had done before. Having made up his mind that art was life seen through a temperament, having determined to include as much of life as was possible in his art, he, so to speak, bought a huge number of note-books and lead pencils, and set out to explore actual life when he could, life as recorded in books when he could not. Of all he saw and all he read he made elaborate notes until at length he had or thought he had a clear and true vision of some phase of life. No "selection" for him any more than there was for old Homer; he would not for a moment have agreed with R. L. Stevenson that the art of writing consisted in knowing what to leave out: he saw all through his temperament and trusted to his temperament to enable him to get things in just pro-portion. Temperament in the case of Zola meant portion. His was the temperament above all of a reformer as well as of an artist. His note-books once crammed with information, he pored over them until he saw not only a phase of life but also the "lesson" to be drawn from it. The thought of that lesson and the passion to implant it modified his conception of every character, modified every sentence in the shaping. Mere prettiness, style, fine cadences, had no attractions for him; they were subordinated to the desire to give a picture of life as seen through the temperament of a reformer. Of the value of the result we will not speak; that the result was stupendous in scope and, according to his own ideal, magnificent in execution only the most brainless will deny. That the thing was worth doing we firmly believe: to what extent it was worth doing may well be decided ten years later, less or more. One thing is certain: no more honest artist ever lived: he never swerved from the path he had chosen, not even when the storm of opposition raged most furiously around him. Even in his own life-time he had his

In England his translator was sent to gaol by a judge and twelve greengrocers; and soon afterwards every man of brains was glad to meet to honour the original author. It is true that most fuss was made of him by the journalists; and that was The journalists recognised that Zola had won his victories through a new application of their methods. In France he had an immense success with the general public. His sales would make the mouth of a Caine or a Corelli water. "L'Assommoir", 142,000; "Nana", 193,000; "La Débâcle", 202,000—these are some of the figures. It is true he was never admitted a member of the Academy; and that any man of intelligence should desire so dubious an honour is one of the strangest features in the French character.

As he was in his art so he was in his workaday life. As he was in his art so he was in his workaday life. Careless of classic reserve, when all the Academics hung aloof, whatever they may have thought, Zola came forward and spoke for Dreyfus and against the self-confessed forger Esterhazy; and besides winning a kind of approximate justice for the man he defended raised himself in the opinion of every man canable of thicking. That deed will always man capable of thinking. That deed will always redound to his honour; but it is as an artist who had a great ideal and worked steadily towards it that Zola will be remembered. If we cannot say that in his un-

" Nothing is here for tears, nothing to wail Or knock the breast, no weakness no contempt Dispraise or blame-nothing but well and fair

we can say that here was a life splendidly, consistently, sincerely, passionately lived.

#### WATCHING THE STARLINGS.

THE final end and aim of all the gatherings, flights, circlings and other "skiey" evolutions of starlings at the close of each day is, of course, the entry into that dark wood where in "numbers numberless" yet packed into a wonderfully small space, they pass the night, clinging beneath every leaf, like the dreams that Vergil speaks of. This entry they accomplish in various ways. Sometimes, but rarely, they descend out of their brown firmament in one perpetual rushing stream which seems to be sucked down by a reversed application of the principle on which the column of a water-spout is sucked up from ocean; but their general place spout is sucked up from ocean; but their general plan is to settle, somewhere, in the neighbourhood of their sleeping-place before finally passing to it. They may swarm into the adjacent hedges along the line of which they move like uproarious rivers of violent life and joy, in them and just above them, and should there happen to be another thicket or plantation, a field or so from their chosen one it is much their habit to enter this first and fly from it to the latter. This passage from the ante or drawing-room to the dormitory is an interesting thing to watch, but it does not take place till after a considerable interval, during which the birds talk and seem to be preparing themselves for going to bed. At last they are ready or the proper time has arrived. The sun has sunk and the still evening waits for the stealing night. The babbling sing-song, though swollen, now, to its greatest volume, seems—such are the harmonies of nature—to have more of silence in it than of sound, but all at once, it changes to a sudden roar of wings as the birds whirl up and fly across the intervening space to their final resting-place. It seems then as though all had risen at one and the same moment, but, had they done so, the plantation would now be empty whilst the entire sky above it would be darkened by an immense host of birds. This, however, is not the case. There is, indeed, a continuous stream of them from the plantation, but all or most of the ribile that is in flaming the plantation itself must of the while that it is flowing the plantation itself must be stocked with still vaster numbers, since it takes, as a rule, about half an hour for it to become empty. drained, in fact, as a broad sheet of water would be by a constant narrower outflow, taking the actual water to represent the birds. Thus, though the exodus commences with suddenness, it is gradually accomplished, and this gives the idea of method and sequence in its accomplishment. The mere fact that a proportion of

the birds resist, even up to the last moment, the impulse to flight, which so many rushing pinions but just above their heads may be supposed to communicate, suggests some reason for such self-restraint, and gradually, as one watches—especially if one comes night after night— the reason begins to appear. For a long time the current of flight flows on uninterruptedly, hiding with its mantle whatever of form or substance may lie beneath. But at last the numbers begin to wane, the speed, at least in appearance, to flag, and it is then seen that the starlings are flying in bands of comparatively moderate size, which follow each other at longer or shorter intervals. Sometimes there is a clear which may be wide or narrow, between band and band, sometimes the leaders of the one are but barely separated from the laggards of the other, sometimes they overlap but, even here, their existence is plain and unmistakable. This, as I have said, is towards the end of the flight. On most accessions as an third bat I have unmistakable. This, as I have said, is towards the end of the flight. On most occasions, as on this that I have been imagining, nothing of the sort is to be seen at its beginning. There is a sudden outrush and no division in the continuous line is perceptible. Occasionally, however, the exodus begins in much the same way as it ends, one troop of birds following another, until soon there ceases to be any interval between them. But though this band formation is now masked to the eye, one may suppose that it still exists and that, there are unseen currents in the ocean, so great and apparently promiscuous stream of birds is made up of innumerable small bands or regiments which, though distinct and capable at any moment of acting independently, are so mingled together that they present the appearance of an indiscriminate host moving without order and constructed upon no more complex principle of subdivision than that of the individual unit. There is another phenomenon to be observed in these last flights of the starlings which appears to me to offer additional evidence of this being Supposing there to be a hedge or any other the case. shelter in the birds' course one can, by stooping behind it, remain concealed or unthought of whilst they pass directly overhead. One then notices that there is a constant and, to some extent, regular rising and sinking of the rushing noise made by their wings. It is like rush after rush, a maximum roar of sound, quickly diminishing, then another roar, and so on in unvarying or little varying succession. Why should this be? That at more or less regular intervals those birds that happened to be passing just above one should fly faster, thereby increasing the sound made by their wings, and that this should continue during the whole flight does not seem likely. It would be method without meaning. But supposing that, at certain points, the living stream were composed of greater multitudes of birds than in the intermediate spaces, then, at intervals, as these greater multitudes passed above one, there would be an accentuation of the an accentuation of the uniform rushing sound. Now, in a moderate-sized band of starlings, flying rapidly, there is often a thin forward or apex end, which increases gradually, or sometimes rather suddenly to the maximum bulk in the centre, and a hinder or tail end decreasing in the same manner. If hundreds of these bands were to fly up so quickly, one after another, that their vanguards rearguards became intermingled or even a little absorbed into the rest, yet still the numbers of each main body ought largely to preponderate over those of the combined portions, so that here we should have a cause capable of producing the effect in question. The starlings then—this, at least, is my own conclusion—though they seem to fly all together, in one long string, really do so in regiment after regiment, and moreover there is a certain order—and that a strange one—by which these regiments leave the plantation. It is not the first ones—those, that is to say, that are stationed nearest the dormitory—that lead the flight out, but the farthest or back regiments rise first and fly successively over the heads of those in front of them Thus the plantation is emptied from the farther end and that part of the army which was, in sitting, the rear, becomes, in flying, the van. This, at least, seems to be the rule or tendency and precisely the same thing is observable with rooks, though in both it may be partially broken and thus obscured. One must not, in

the collective movements of birds expect the precision and uniformity which characterise drilled human armies. It is, rather, the blurred image of, or confused approximation towards, this that is observable, and this,

perhaps, is still more interesting.

One more point; and here again, rooks and starlings closely resemble each other. It might be supposed that birds thus flying in the dusk of evening, to their resting-place, would be anxious to get there and that the last thing to occur to them would be to turn round and fly in the opposite direction. and fly in the opposite direction. Both here, however, and in the flights out in the morning, we have that curious phenomenon of breaking back, which, in its more salient manifestations, at least, is a truly marvellous thing to behold. With a sudden whirr of wings, the sound of which companyed to search the control of the control of which companyed to search the control of which control of wh the sound of which somewhat resembles that of a squall of wind, still more, perhaps, the crackling of sticks in a huge blaze of flame, first one great horde and then another tears apart, each half wheeling round in an opposite direction, with enormous velocity and such a general seeming of storm, stir and excitement as is quite indescribable. This may happen over and over again and each time it strikes one as more remarkable. It is as though a tearing hurricane had struck the advancing host of birds, rent them asunder and whirled them to right and left with the most irresistible fury. of volition seems adequate to account for the thing. or volution seems adequate to account for the thing. It is like the shock of elements, but the birds are their own hurricane, and they rage in order. Having divided and whirled about in this gusty, fierce fashion, for a moment or so, they seem to hang and crowd in the air, and then—the exact process of it is hardly to be gathered —they reunite and continue to throng onwards. Sometimes, again, a certain number, flashing out of the crowd, will wheel sharply round in one direction and descend in a cloud on the bushes they have just left. In these sudden and sharply localised movements we have, perhaps, fresh evidence of that division into smaller bodies which may possibly underlie all great assemblies either of starlings or other birds.

EDMUND SELOUS.

#### ROMANTIC LANDSCAPES.

I .- EVENING.

THE shadows lie across the field, The road in shadow lies: The sun is gold upon the Earth And gold upon the skies.

The cavernous woods hold mysteries, The evening with hushed breath Waits the harsh hoof-beats of my horse Upon the hill of Death.

#### II .- HIGH NOON.

When gold was the green of the grass And purple the shadow of trees; He watched in sweet pilgrimage pass, The joyfully labouring bees.

Watched dragon-flies' glittering gleam, Heard the reeds' a soft lullaby croon, And greeted Death's delicate dream In the shadows that followed the noon.

#### III .- RAIN.

The grief of the grey evening lies Against the sorrowing slopes, The huddled corn in longing sighs For all its long-held hopes.

We will go homeward, love, and rest And find our life more warm, As, your head lying on my breast, We listen to the storm.

ALTHEA GYLES.

#### THE CHARACTER OF LOVELACE.

THE announcement that Mr. Austin Dobson's study of Richardson will appear very shortly encourages the hope that at last we may have something more like a thorough and acute analysis of the character of Lovelace, than is contained in the numberless criticisms Lovelace, than is contained in the numberless criticisms that have appeared both in France and in this country, from Voltaire down to Miss Thomson's biography of the other day; and that a more philosophic estimate of this creation will be arrived at, than that which is content to dismiss him—to quote Miss Thomson, who, however but follows Macaulay, Sir James Mackintosh, Jeffrey, Diderot and the rest of the host of critics—"as a bundle of conflicting and irreconsileable qualities which could not possibly be found in cileable qualities which could not possibly be found in one man". Others go further and insist that he is an abnormal monster upon whom all study of motive is wasted, and E. S. Dallas, whose introduction to the abridged edition of 1868 contains one of the most sympathetic and luminous studies of Clarissa, says vehemently "One grudges that Lovelace should fall in a dual with an honourable man instead of rolling handa duel with an honourable man, instead of rolling hand-cuffed to his doom in the hangman's cart". He even refuses to recognise one thread of gold in the dark web of Lovelace's being: and goes so far as to charge him with stinginess for the "small amount of pin-money"

with stinginess for the small amount of phrimoley he proposes to settle upon Clarissa on marriage.

According then to these critics and judges of Lovelace, we must either take our choice, and regard (and resent) him as an abnormal monster of infamy,—which view involves us in a complete misapprehension of the whole tragedy of the book, a missing of its supreme significance, which, so we take it, is the mortal struggle between a man and a woman, and that becomes unintelligible and grotesque if the man is a "monster of infamy"—or we have the equally unsatisfactory and unphilosophic dismissal of him, as a mere bundle of contradictions which could not possibly be found in one man. From this latter standpoint it is the presentation of a number of qualities mutually destructive of one another, and exhibiting, not a complex human being under the successive influence of particular ideas, feelings and passions, but abstract portraiture that has attributes, physical and mental, but no organic centre, no key-note, -which view involves us in a complete misphysical and mental, but no organic centre, no key-note, which once found—and all characters of sufficient depth and force possess this key-note—explains or at least throws light on seemingly antagonistic actions and

motives.

In real life we constantly search for this key-note and are unable to discover it, and characters remain to puzzle and baffle and be misjudged. What figure in fiction could be more "inconsistent" than Byron? What hero of melodrama was ever fashioned out of more glaring and perplexing contradictions; and who, after reading his own "Letters" that have recently appeared, by turns calm, voluptuous, impassioned, enthusiastic, terse and witty, with their alternate want of purity and soaring flight of soul, can in truth feel that Loyelace, with his ave for moral heavily, his calfebrate. of purity and soaring flight of soul, can in truth reet that Lovelace, with his eye for moral beauty, his selfishness, his cruelty, his fervid feelings, keen sensations, irresistible wit and vivacity and demon-like love of plotting, is one whit more difficult to "explain", label and classify, than Byron himself? But the more one studies Lovelace, endeavouring to disengage his character and temperament from the tragic ruin he causes and thereby getting a more objective insight into the inner workings of his being—the more prominent become the innermost springs which set in motion his own actions and the whole train of circumstances

his own actions and the whole train of circumstances that prepare the catastrophe.

And though it be heresy to say so, the character of Lovelace is of even more import as an artistic creation than Clarissa, who to some extent has been foreshadowed by Shakespeare, whereas, he is a new, and we believe wholly original figure in fiction. One has only to contrast the imperishable male creation in Fielding's masterpiece, with Lovelace, to recognise how much greater is Richardson's conception, though its execution falls far below the consummate craftsmanship of his contemporary. And it is in this distinction between the two that we touch the key-note of Lovelace's the two that we touch the key-note of Lovelace's

character, see the springs of his actions and con-flicting emotions, and understand what it is that flicting emotions, and understand while magnetic makes him of such profound interest and magnetic makes him of such profound interest and magnetic makes him of such profound interest and magnetic makes him of such profounds in the such profou attractiveness, not only to us, but to his friend, so that whilst Belford loathes his schemes he cannot

abandon him or hate him.

He is no mere sensualist. He does not pursue animal pleasures in the simple, single, uncomplex fashion of Fielding's hero; but much more because of the intrigues with which they are bound up, and for the opportunities they give him for his demon-like tricks, often purely wanton and mischievous and even involving trouble and annoyance to himself, but precisely what one sometimes sees in a grown man who has preserved great buoyancy of disposition and a permanent exalta-tion of high spirits. One sees—there is hardly a letter in which one does not recognise this irresistibly—that the emotions and sentiments connected with these intrigues, give him the same restless zest and stimulation as are experienced by the hunter determined upon ton as are experienced by the hunter determined upon capture, yet ever baffled, and finding in his constantly escaping prey ever new sensations and reasons for relentless pursuit. Lovelace is rather, one feels, a-moral than "infamous"; he seems only to find mischief in the ruining of an innocent woman—and paradoxical as it may seem—just because he is so conscious of the intense purity of Clarissa, seems bent on her dishonour; seems to feel indeed just that irresistible impulse to seems to feel indeed just that irresistible impulse to spoil and deface that one often sees in a lively, irresponsible child.

Joined to this virile passion of the hunter, there was much in Lovelace of the woman, as there was in Richardson's own genius, and this in the form of a vanity which could not endure the notion of defeat or slight by a woman. This is indicated in a note which is struck early in the story and sustained at intervals throughout, and shows how large a part it played not only in Lovelace's own nature, but as one of the predominating elements in his relations with Clarissa, that wrought her ruin. He ends the first letter which he wrote to Belford after Clarissa's flight, in this way: "But did I say my joy was perfect? Oh no! It receives some abatement from my disgusted pride. For how can I endure to think that I owe more to her relations' persecutions than to her favour for me? or even as far as I know, to her preference of me to another

"But let me not indulge this thought. Were I to do so, it might cost my charmer dear, for, let me tell thee, dearly as I love her, if I thought there was but the shadow of a doubt in her mind whether she preferred me to any man living, I would show her no macro."

mercy.

It is in these sentiments, disclosing a vanity that could not bear to receive the lightest blow from a could not bear to receive the lightest blow from a woman's hand, and might easily be mortified into cruelty, and in others equally, even unnaturally candid—for surely no man but a Rousseau would reveal himself in the depths quite so unreservedly—that Lovelace shows so many of the fundamental, psychological traits of a certain type of very quick, vivacious, feminine temperament, passing easily to levity and license. Herein too is the explanation of those rapid changes of feeling and sentiment, more often found in changes of feeling and sentiment, more often found in women than in men, which one moment under the influence of Clarissa's divinely pure presence, abash him into a remorseful grief and tenderness, and the next exhibit him to his friend in depths of unmitigated rascaldom, reminding one again here of Byron's swift alternations of emotion, gay as a fountain sparkling in the sun one moment, the next depressed in spirit to impenetrable gloom. Once only is the undaunted spirit of Lovelace shaken: and the letter he writes on hearing of Clarissa's death, rises to a tragic height not to be surpassed by the two great scenes that stand forth with solemn force and grandeur. Richardson, it is said, was troubled by his creation of Lovelace. He feared he had made him too alluring. It is certain that one cannot hate Lovelace with all his wickedness; and the one hope thrown out by Richardson of his final redemption, is satisfying not less to the moral judgment than to the æsthetic imagination.

#### FRENCH RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT.

IV .- THE EST AND THE PARIS LYON AND MÉDITERRANÉE.

THE Est company was incorporated in 1845. system comprises three main routes, one, the most northerly, running from Paris through Meaux and Rheims to Givet for Belgium and North Germany, another diverging from the first at Meaux and going through Epernay, Châlons, and Blesme to the frontier at Avricourt near Strasburg, and the third keeping more to the southward from Paris through Troyes and Chaumont to Belfort and the Swiss frontier at Delle. Of these the Belgian line did not reach Givet until Of these the Belgian line did not reach Givet until 1862, but the others were finished much earlier, the Strasburg line being in operation as far as Châlons in 1849 and through to Nancy in 1852, while that to Switzerland was opened to Chaumont in 1857 and to Belfort in the following year. Not choosing to com-pete with the Nord company the Est makes no use of its Belgian route for through traffic, but along the central main line it works a number of good trains including the Orient Express for Strasburg, Munich and the East, while over the Paris and Belfast section it carries on a smart service connecting the French capital with Basle, the great railway junction of central Europe. From Basle trains run locally to all parts of Switzer-land, southward by the S. Gothard to Italy, and east-ward to the Tirol and Austria by way of the Arlberg tunnel. To Vienna there are the alternative routes through German territory, and to Italy there are also the Mont Cenis and Riviera lines, so that the Basle through services are subject to considerable competitrain may be mentioned that run during the Paris Exhibition season in 1900, which leaving Vienna late in the morning delivered its passengers, via the Arlberg, Basle, and the Est line, at Paris in the following afternoon; thus performing the journey notwithstanding custom-house delays, severe Alpine gradients, and much single line, in little more than one complete day. This train, made up of splendid new rolling stock with dining-car accommodation, was not, like the old-fashioned Continental trains de luxe, confined to firstclass passengers at excess fares but conveyed holders of ordinary first and second class tickets without restriction, and was a good example of what foreign railways can do when they choose. Long-distance expresses in Europe are in almost every case hampered by delays more or less serious for custom-house formalities at the various frontiers; hence the actual speed of a "train international" is generally much better than would appear from the mere length of time occupied on the journey from end to end.

Besides its Paris services the Est also takes part in working the through English expresses to Switzer-land which run direct from Calais to Basle and are handed over by the Nord company at Laon. These trains in view of the keen competition by the Ostende route have always been very good. From a military point of view the Est system is of the utmost value to France. During the Franco-German War the line played an important part in the operations; and in the end the company suffered severely, for, on the rectification of the frontier which followed the proclamation of peace, some 500 miles of its railway passed away into German hands. For its passenger rolling stock, much of which is of such dimensions that it would elsewhere be naturally fitted with bogies, the Est like the Midi company shows a curious preference for vehicles running on two axles only. Travellers on the line running on two axles only. Travellers on the line a few years ago could hardly help noticing the extra-ordinary appearance of the express locomotives then in use. These "double-boilered" engines seemed to do well enough, but the company has now abandoned the design and builds four-cylinder compounds of the standard French type, no doubt finding them even more

satisfactory

The Paris Lyon and Méditerranée is the largest railway in France, extending between its termini at Paris and Vintimille for a distance greater than that between Plymouth and Aberdeen. The main line runs through Dijon, Lyon, Avignon, and Marseilles to Nice,

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Monte Carlo, and the Italian Riviera at Vintimille. At Dijon and Macon two branches hardly less important than the main line itself diverge to the east, the one leading through Dôle to Besançon and Belfort and to Pontarlier, the junction with the Swiss line for Lausanne and the Rhone Valley; and the other passing by way of Aix-les-Bains to the Mont Cenis tunnel and the Italian frontier at Modane. At Culoz another branch leaves this and gives access to Geneva. There is also a loop which turns off at a junction near Fontainebleau, a short distance out of Paris, and which, after running due south for several hundred miles through the centre of France and opening up amongst other places Vichy, Royat, and other well-known health resorts, rejoins the main line again near the Mediterranean. About forty years ago the P.L.M. acquired certain possessions in Algeria, and the mileage worked there by the company to-day would in itself constitute quite a respectable

little British railway system.

The opening of the great Mont Cenis tunnel in October 1871 provided a new route between northwest Europe and the south far superior to any other then in existence, so superior indeed that the English Government, which began to make use of it almost at once, was enabled to save a whole day in the overland transit of the Indian mails to Brindisi. The lines approaching the tunnel on the north side were all in the hands of the P.L.M. and the company happy in the possession of a valuable monopoly did not hesitate to make the most of its advantages. The completion of make the most of its advantages. The completion of the S. Gothard tunnel ten years later brought a new and energetic rival on the scene, and the older route had perforce to make some much-needed improvements; but when the Simplon tunnel now under construction P.L.M. will once more be in a position of great superiority. This last and greatest of the Alpine tunnels lies at a much lower elevation than any of the others. It starts near Brigue at the head of the Rhone Valley, and will be accessible from the French comsystem either via Pontarlier and Lausanne, via the Geneva branch, or as seems most probable by some new direct line, the course of which has not yet been finally settled. The Simplon route will reduce the mileage between London and Paris and Italy, and the gradients will be much easier than those of either the Mont Cenis or S. Gothard, so that, if only an energetic service is provided, it should be able to attract as much

of the through traffic as it can well deal with.

English travellers as a rule, looking upon the P.L.M.
main line simply as a means of reaching the Mediterranean, give little attention to the intermediate places passed on the way from Paris to the south coast; but with the section beyond Marseilles serving as it does Hyères, Cannes, Nice, Monte Carlo, and Mentone besides a host of minor places, they are probably more familiar than they are with any other piece of railway to be found away from home. The company appears to be found away from home. The company appears to believe that those of our countrymen who visit this beautiful district are drawn exclusively from leisured classes to whom time and money are of no importance whatever, and acting upon this theory it provides a train service which is one of the slowest, most expensive, and generally inefficient in the world. The statement that during the season train after train is limited to the conveyance of first-class limited to the conveyance of first-class passengers means little in itself, for a so-called second-class passenger in the Isle of Wight, for instance, is in a much more unfortunate position than those who travel first elsewhere. The true test is of course the rate charged per mile, and the return made for the money received, and when this is considered the accommodation given along the Riviera line is really wonderfully bad. What the value of the traffic to the company must be may be guessed by anyone who cares to spend an hour in watching it at some fashionable point during

the busy time. Probably on no railway in the world is so large a profit so easily earned.

But even the P.L.M. is gradually taking up a less ungenerous attitude towards the public, for it has not been able altogether to escape the influence of the wave of reform which has within the last few years passed over the railways of France. The company has built a quantity of improved rolling stock which was well

represented at the late Paris Exhibition, and it has quickened some of its trains to an appreciable extent, though in the latter respect it still lags far behind the Chemin de Fer du Nord. Now that, besides the Bibby and Messageries companies, the British mail steamship lines running to the East have made Marseilles their principal place of call in the Mediterranean the constant stream of overland passengers between that port and England has been still further augmented and the virtues and shortcomings of the French railways have acquired a new interest. The company's station in Paris is very inconveniently situated, but so many trains now pass round the city by the suburban line that its position has ceased to be of importance to through passengers. The coaching stock of the P.L.M. calls for no remark. Of the locomotives many have been built on a plan which is intended as far as possible to diminish the resistance of the air. The front of the engine is prolonged forward and tapered off to a sharp edge and presents an appearance not unlike that of an old-fashioned snow-plough. Other exposed surfaces are similarly treated, and whether the design is or is not effectual for the purpose for which it is intended there can be no doubt of its present an accordance and the contract of the surface and the can be no doubt of its success as an advertisement.

## ILL-CHOSEN BACKGROUNDS AT DRURY

WHETHER Oxford have reason to curse the memory of Mr. Rhodes is a point which Time alone can settle. Whether those forthcoming bevies alone can settle. alone can settle. Whether those forthcoming bevies of young Colonials sans peur et sans reproche, and of similar young Americans, will be easily absorbed, with all their perfections on their heads, and adapted to their environment, or whether they will produce atmospheric disturbances, unsettling the traditions of a place whose whole charm and use is in the placid maintenance of its traditions—whether, in fact, the newcomers will or won't be a great puisance, we cannot tell until we have won't be a great nuisance, we cannot tell until we have seen something of them. Meanwhile, the Benign Mother has acquired a fame wider than ever came to her in the past. She has been enormously puffed by the popular press. Her history has been recounted in long special articles, and the eccentricities of her character have been touched off, not unkindly, in innumerable paragraphs. Her name has been bandied freely and knowingly among those classes which had hitherto regarded her merely as an annual excuse for a bet. And now comes for her the proud corollary of being introduced by Mr. Cecil Raleigh, with a flourish, into the latest melodrama at Drury Lane.

Her début, I regret to say, was not an unqualified success. She was there to display her well-known accomplishment of "whispering to us the last enchantments of the middle age"; and she did her best; but somehow the whispers did not get across the footlights. One sighed for the Lawn at Ascot, or for the Promenade of the Empire Theatre, or for the Central Lobby of the House of Commons—for any of those more lurid scenes which Mr. Raleigh had lavished on us in other years. Oxford in Oxfordshire is as irresistible a city as was ever built by Time; but by very reason of one of its own dearest charms Oxford is unable to quit herself creditably in Drury Lane. She is not hustling enough. creditably in Drury Lane. She is not hustling enough. Some grey walls and towers, some old men in long black gowns, some young men in short black gowns—these, with nothing more, (and what more is there?) do not compass much of an effect in the kind of melodrama which is made to be spectacular before all things. Mr. Raleigh felt this instinctively. So, to enliven the milieu, on he brought a circus procession, with Mrs. John Wood as Britannia, and other sops for the eager jaws of his patrons. And Oxford had to take a back seat. a back seat.

a back seat.

Poor Oxford! Will she, I wonder, ever be made successfully the background for a play, or for a novel? It is curious that of all the stories devoted to a portrayal of Oxford "Verdant Green" is the only one in which Oxford's spirit has been caught. And "Verdant Green" is avowedly farcical. What is it that prevents the serious novelist from catching the spirit of the

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place? I suppose it is his fear of eliminating sex. Without sex, he is sure, there can be no human interest; and so the mainspring of every Oxford story is the love of an undergraduate for Miss So-and-So; and so every Oxford story falls right out of focus. is true that since the Fellows have been permitted to marry, and to take unto themselves little red-brick villas in the environs, and since the foundation of Somerville and Lady Margaret's Hall, Oxford has in itself quite a large feminine element. But the spirit of the place, so far as the undergraduates are concerned, is still the ancient spirit of celibacy. Roughly, it is true that in a young girl the desire for erudition is never allied to physical comeliness, and that to be a Don's wife in the Parks is not a choice ever made by a woman who has the chance of any other kind of married life. But the spirit of celibacy among undergraduates is not ex-plicable through these incidental rules. There are exceptions to these rules. Now and again feminine comeliness occurs in Oxford, and you will hear under-graduates professing admiration of it; but only a very light, remote kind of admiration is theirs, by no means distracting them from the usual tenour of their life. Sport, athletics, books, and, above all, good-fellowship—these are the things that make up the lives of the undergraduates, these are their true interests. The instinct of sex is dormant, and, even if it happen to be stirred in vacation, it quickly relapses in term. And thus, to anyone who knows Oxford well, the kind of novel which has hitherto been written about Oxford rings persistently false. There is a great chance for the novelist who shall accept the limitations of Oxford as a milieu, and write sincerely in the plenty of room left to him. But though fiction is ripe for a treatment of these academic materials—friendship, intellectual development and so forth—the stage is not yet, never perhaps will be, ripe for them. Certainly, nothing could be more unripe for them than the stage of Drury Lane. And, since Oxford does not afford the kind of scenic excitement which Drury Lane demands. I think Mr. Policiek ment which Drury Lane demands, I think Mr. Raleigh should have shunned it altogether. True, having got the circus into it, he bundles us out of it, so far as South Africa, with all possible speed. Nor are we again reminded of its existence, except at one delicious moment when a Boer who has got through the British lines is saved from instant execution by the plea that he, having been educated at St. Simon's College, Oxford, has just remembered that it is Boat Race day and has slipped in to drink success to the crew with an English officer who had been his contemporary at the dear old place. Nevertheless, the atmosphere of Oxford, that dear and incidious threather than the dear and incidious threather. that damp and insidious atmosphere, seems to overhang the rest of the play, and South Africa seems positively

I doubt whether South Africa could, in any case, have been exhilarating. Had Mr. Raleigh treated the war from a sternly patriotic point of view, showing the Boers to be cunning and cowardly savages, the audience would not, I think, have been roused to enthusiasm. Two years ago that kind of thing would have gone down very well; but now that the war is over, the shrill voice of Jingoism would, I fancy, somewhat jar the public's ear. The very fact that Mr. Raleigh, avowedly a man who tries to write exactly the kind of thing which the public wants, did not assume that shrill voice is proof presumptive of the change in the public's feeling. I welcome the change, and I am glad to think that the voice which Mr. Raleigh has assumed this year is a voice better attuned to the public's ear. But I protest that he goes rather too far in his dulcet chivalry. He hardly gives the English a look in: almost everything is sacrificed to a sympathetic statement of the Boer case, to an exposition of Boer simplicity and bravery; and in the whole play the one really well-drawn character, the one part of which an actor can make anything, is the part of an aged commandant. The British officers are so many insignificant nine-pins, dotted around, while the aged commandant, as large as life, stands firmly in the middle of the stage, in a blaze of lime-light, being most awfully pathetic, all the time. Mr. Raleigh might argue that at Drury Lane a golden mean turns to lead—that you must run to one extreme or the other. Doubtless, that argument would be quite sound. But it would merely clinch my point, that Mr.

Raleigh ought to have left South Africa severely alone. The war is now remote enough for the public not to hate the Boers. But it is not so remote that the public can regard the Boer cause as something infinitely finer and more sympathetic than its own. The sporting instinct to favour the weakerside cannot be expected of the stronger combatant until the combat has passed into remote history. And therefore, at present, South Africa can make no wide dramatic appeal. I offer to Mr. Raleigh, too late, another, a simpler, reason for leaving the war alone. We are all so heartily sick of the very mention of the war. It continued for a long time, and there was a horde of professional and amateur writers incessantly describing it for us; insomuch that now we sicken at the sight of such words as "kopjes" and "khaki", and sicken accordingly when we see kopjes and khaki on the stage.

Altogether, it seems to me that in the selection of backgrounds which will please the public—and that is the art (if Mr. Raleigh will excuse the word) of writing dramas for Drury Lane—Mr. Raleigh has not shown his usual tact. I have no doubt that the public will go in its myriads to Drury Lane. But it will go rather by force of annual habit than by force of desire to see what is to be seen there.

Max.

#### EXPENDITURE OF BRITISH LIFE OFFICES.

THE latest official returns about British life assurance prove, as we showed last week, that the rate of interest earned upon the funds has been falling somewhat rapidly in recent years. This is a matter over which the managers of insurance companies have little control; but the decline in the rate of interest has been more than provided for by increased reserves; and insurance as an investment compares as favourably as ever with investments of other kinds.

Another point of much importance to policy-holders is the rate of expenditure incurred. This is a matter over which managers have control and it is very satisfactory to find that the latest figures are better than at any previous time at least in the past seventeen years. The percentages of life premiums absorbed in commission and expenses, according to the Blue-book published this year, were 5'35 and 8'38 respectively. The two items together absorb 13'73 per cent. of the premiums. For the previous twenty years the average of the ratios was 14'40 per cent. and for several years the expenditure was more than 15 per cent. of the premiums.

It is frequently asserted that life assurance expenses are greater now than ever before, but official and unofficial records prove that this is not the case. What is true—or what was true a few years ago—is that some companies spend more for commission and management than any companies spent several years back. But while some offices have gone to the extremes of extravagance the better companies have effected economies with the result that the general rate of expenditure is much lower than formerly.

is much lower than formerly.

The life funds of ordinary offices are about eleven times their annual premium income, so that a saving in expenditure of 1 per cent. of the premiums would balance a decline in the rate of interest of about one shilling and tenpence per cent. of the funds. Some offices may have gained by economy what they have lost in interest, but as a whole this has not been done. Ten years ago the rate of interest was exactly 4 per cent. of the funds, and the expenditure 14.3 per cent. of the premiums. The fall in the rate of interest has been five shillings and tenpence per cent. of the funds, and the reduction in expenditure twelve shillings per cent. of the premiums, which is equivalent to only about one shilling per cent. of the funds.

This comparison is only approximate but it serves to bring out two important facts. One is that the fall in

This comparison is only approximate but it serves to bring out two important facts. One is that the fall in the rate of interest is a serious matter which must be provided for unless this has already been done, and the second is that economies are possible, since many companies have made them, and that economy of management is a very important factor in the welfare of a life

office.

But we may go further and trace a very intimate connexion between the rates of interest and expenditure. Two of the most important sources of surplus are the excess of the interest received over the interest calculated upon and of the expenditure provided for over the expenditure incurred. When the surplus is large provision can be made for lower rates of interest in the future by adding part of the surplus to the reserves. But if, in consequence of heavy expenditure, the surplus is small such provision cannot well be made, and in such circumstances the future prospects of an office

become relatively poor.

Thus although a decline in the rate of interest is to a great extent beyond the control of any manager, yet by economy of management, in regard to which control is possible, the adverse effects of falling interest may to some extent be avoided. Individual offices supply instances of controllable expenditure counteracting the uncontrollable fall in interest. Unhappily individual offices also supply instances of falling interest having an adverse effect and of this state of things being met not by economy but by extravagance. There seems some mild hope on the part of some managers that policies which cannot be sold on their merits can be sold by means of exorbitant commissions and in such cases the conditions of an office pass gradually from bad to worse.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

MACEDONIA: THE TURKISH VIEW.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Constantinople.

SIR,-It seems to have become the fashion amongst certain European writers to revive the flesh-creeping stories which were so lavishly circulated some twentystories which were so lavishly circulated some twenty-five years ago with regard to portions of the Ottoman Empire and later on freely spread all over Europe, and especially in London, by a handful of atrocity-mongers who tried to mislead public opinion in England; but whether Bulgaria or Anatolia were concerned the sound and practical common sense of the British nation found out after awhile that gross and very often deliberate falsehoods, had exaggeration, and very often deliberate falsehoods, had been concocted and prepared by certain wire-pullers who were supporting agitators, revolutionists and rebels either in European Turkey or in Asia Minor. And the clamour died off, the huge heap of apparently heartrending grievances and of sensational reports dwindling down to a mere mote. Europe declined to listen any longer.

But now that the Bulgarian committees at Sofia have started their criminal campaign and endeavoured to make Europe believe that the state of affairs in Macedonia is intolerable and awful, asserting that in the three vilayets of Kossovo, Salonica and Monastir the Christian population is oppressed and persecuted by Mussulmans, plundered, ill-treated, imprisoned and crushed by Albanians and Turkish officials alike, irresponsible writers and fanatical enemies of the Ottoman Empire are trying again to create an outburst of indignation against the Turks by means of slanders and odious descriptions of supposed tortures and outrages in Macedonia. What evidence can be produced

in support of such accusations?

The detractors of the Porte allege that the Sultan wants to impose the Mussulman creed on the whole world, and that all Christian communities throughout the vast Empire are systematically persecuted. How the vast Empire are systematically persecuted. How is it then that after centuries all these Christian comis it then that after centuries all these Christian communities are still so strong that political schemers are making use of them with the avowed object of dismembering and destroying that Empire? The truth is that the same detractors are purposely distorting the text of the Koran which most certainly never even hinted at reducing Christians to poverty or condemning them to death. On the contrary Mahomed declared in one of his public speeches that the life and property of Christians should be respected.

Neither is it true to the facts that Christians in the three above-mentioned vilayets are paying four times more taxes than Mussulmans and that they have to pay 70 per cent. out of the produce of their agricultural labour. The sober truth is that for centuries Christians and Mussulmans have tilled the soil side by side and that the latter are not as rich as the former.

As for education no one who has any knowledge of the three vilayets can deny that it has greatly improved for the last twenty-five years, not only at Salonica, Kossovo and Monastir but in every province and district of the Empire. The Ottoman Government is devoting a considerable part of its time to the develop-ment of instruction and the creation of schools. It ment of instruction and the creation of schools. It supports them, encourages them and provides funds for their establishment. If Christian children do not attend public schools in the pay of the Government it is not because they meet with difficulties for their admission to such schools, which are opened to every creed, but because their parents prefer to send them to schools which belong to Christian religious communities. It must be observed furthermore that there are many Christian pupils in the Mulkick. more that there are many Christian pupils in the Mulkié and Rushdié schools as well as at the medical, commercial and law schools.

If it is true that the Ottoman Government is the enemy of the Christian religion how is that in the three vilayets Bulgarian, Servian, Greek and Coutzo Roumanian churches are to be found in every town, every borough, every hamlet, according to the number and predominant persuasion of the Christian population? How is it that religious liberty is absolutely flourishing in every part of the Empire and religious ceremonies are allowed in the streets of Constantinople which would certainly be forbidden by the Authorities either in Paris or in London? Nor is this religious liberty granted out of fear of Christian Europe, for at a time when the Mussulman Power was in the ascendent and so strong that Europe was materially unable to interfere in the internal affairs of Turkey the same

religious liberty existed.

What is the real situation in Macedonia? inhabitants clamour for an autonomy which some politicians abroad are claiming for them without their consent? Certainly not. The inhabitants are not at all in a state of insurrection; they only want to be left in peace and to work. It is the agitators from abroad who do all the mischief with their programme of plunder and arson and riot-making in the hope of fomenting disturbances and then of accusing the authorities of oppression and tyranny. It is the Bulgarian terrorism which they try to carry on in Macedonia, the long planned terrorism, which they endeavour to use for the purpose of maddening the population and fostering a huge rebellion and also of inciting Europe against the Ottoman Government: the old trick again so many times practised by the Slavs since 1867 when the Bulgarian Committee was sitting at Bucharest. It has been in use ever since during each crisis which the Turkish Empire has been going through for the last

thirty-two years.

Is it not the duty of the Ottoman Government to suppress such acts? Is it not plain to every unbiased politician that the Imperial Authorities have to defend and protect the unity of the Empire against agitators whose aim is to produce chaos and sanguinary repression as a preliminary to further complications and with the view of taking some more territories from the the view of taking some more territories from the Ottoman Empire?

But suppose that the three vilayets should be practically free from the Ottoman rule, what would be the result? The Christian communities would undoubtedly cut each other's throats, for it cannot be denied that the four Christian races—Servians, Bulgarians, Greeks and Roumanians-hate each other far more than they hate the Mussulmans.

What possible remedy is there to such a state of things? If the action of the revolutionary committees is allowed to continue, the Porte will be accused of being unable to maintain peace in its own dominions; if it is suppressed, the Atrocity outcry will resound on certain political platforms and in some of the European papers. And who will profit by it? The Slav element. Is England prepared to allow it to take a step further

on the way that leads to the fulfilment of its persistent political programme in Eastern Europe? SADIK. political programme in Eastern Europe?

[This communication comes to us through a most authoritative source in Constantinople, and may be taken to represent the view of the position in the vilayets held in high Ottoman quarters. -ED. S. R.]

#### THE INACCURACIES OF AUTHORS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

The Richmond Club, Richmond, Surrey, 24 September, 1902.

SIR,-Your correspondents have not exhausted the inaccuracies of Thackeray. As far as I know the

Inaccuracies of Inackeray. As far as I know the following have not been referred to in print before.

In "Pendennis" (vol. 2 p. 267) he speaks of "Mahomet's soldiers cutting off the heads of all prisoners who would not acknowledge that there was but one prophet of God". Of course Mahometans admit other prophets besides Mahomet—Adam, Noah, Abrehen Moses, and Christ and Thackers, should Abraham, Moses and Christ—and Thackeray should have known this as he had read his "Decline and Fall" ("The Newcomes" vol. 1 p. 47) where Gibbon deals with the matter in his usual manner of solemn sarcasm.

with the matter in his usual manner of solemn sarcasm. In "Codlingsby" Thackeray burlesques Disraeli as translating Christchurch Meadows into Cambridge ("Burlesques" p. 20) but in "Vanity Fair" (vol. 1 p. 374) Jim Crawley tells his cousin his troubles at the "little-go" while Jim was from Oxford (p. 370) and "little-go" is (I understand) "at the other shop" as Jim himself says in the same chapter of Senior Wespelgers. Wranglers.

Chaplain Sampson could not have been lawfully arrested for debt ("The Virginians" p. 352) during his attendance on divine service (as the law books say eundo morando et redeundo). An old bird such as he was would have probably known this much of the law,

and would hardly have accepted the situation with the resigned remark "At whose suit Simons?"

The pedigree of Barry Lyndon's horse "Bay Bülow by Sophy Hardcastle out of Eclipse" ("Barry Lyndon" p. 232) would, I fancy, make "racing men" grin. In the argot of the Turf a colt is described as by its sire out of its dam and Thackeray's reversal of the usual order of its dam and Inackeray street, is certainly quaint.—Yours obediently,

F. F. Montague.

P.S.—My references are to Smith, Elder and Co.'s edition of 1879.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Hazelwood, Woodside Park, N. 29 September, 1902.

SIR,—In continuation of this subject may I add another instance of inaccuracy in Dickens' "Dombey and Son

In this work Captain Cuttle is described by the author s "a man with a hook instead of a hand attached to his right wrist".

I have before me a recent edition of the book with reproductions of the illustrations by "Phiz". Captain Cuttle appears in eight of these illustrations,

but in two of them (pp. 399 and 631) with the hook attached to the left wrist: the other six show the hook correctly attached to the right wrist.

Yours faithfully,

-I should say the edition I refer to is the "India Paper Edition" recently published by Messrs. Chapman and Hall, Limited.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

147 Grey Street, North Shields, 22 September, 1902.

SIR,-The list of further inaccuracies furnished by your correspondent Mr. John Preston Beecher, in your issue of Saturday, 20 September, is most interesting, but is not his reference to Robinson Crusoe inaccurate? Your correspondent states that Crusoe first filled his

pockets full of biscuits, then took off his clothes, and then swam to the wreck.

Unless I am mistaken the order was:—Crusoe first took off his clothes, he says, "I pulled off my Clothes, for the Weather was hot to the Extremity", then he swam to the wreck, climbed on board and making his way to the Bread-room, filled his pockets with biscuit.

This does at first seem a curious thing, for a man who has divested himself of his clothes to do, but in a few sentences further on the seeming impossibility is explained. His words are "I found the Tide began to flow, though very calm, and I had the Mortification to see my Coat, Shirt, and Waistcoat, which I had left on Shorts upon the Sand swim says as for my Reschool." Shore upon the Sand, swim away: as for my Breeches which were only Linen and open-kneed, I swam on board in them and my Stockings". I am, Sir, faithfully yours,

GEO. HURRELL.

#### THE ETIQUETTE OF QUOTATION.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

30 September, 1902.

SIR,-In Mr. Latham's very interesting letter which appeared under the above heading in your issue of

20 September, he says:

"The cry is 'Verify, verify, verify!': and the cry is, I think, a good one. In fact, I sometimes feel inclined to have one on my own account at the number of misquotations I meet at every step. Still the cry is not a new one. Locke, in his 'Essay on the Human Understanding', hints at the necessity for verification of quotations. He says, or rather writes, or—let us try to be as accurate as possible—wrote (type-writing machines did not, I think, exist at the time) as follows?' the says. follows"; &c. &c.

It seems strange that neither Mr. Latham himself nor any other of your correspondents has noticed, or, at least, pointed out, the misquotation that is contained in this, the opening paragraph of his letter. The book in this, the opening paragraph of his letter. The book that John Locke wrote about human understanding is perhaps one of the three or four greatest works that have ever been published, either in the English or any other language, and Mr. Latham could not have quoted from any more authoritative work, but its title is not "Essay on the Human Understanding"—at least, that was not the title given to it by its author, as will be found on looking at the title-page. "Verify, verify, verify!"

I remain, yours obediently,
WILLIAM H. STACPOOLE.

#### GREEK VOTIVE OFFERINGS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Perse School, Cambridge, 20 September, 1902.

SIR,—Kindly allow me to correct an error in your review of my "Greek Votive Offerings". The miniature axes from Crete (and from Olympia and Lusi, not only from Crete) are nowhere said to be "the coinage of the Mycenæan period". These are not Mycenæan at all, but are several hundred years later. Similar axes were, it is true, found at Mycenæ, but not dedicated. Further, I do not speak of "the coinage" of a period which probably had many systems of currency. period which probably had many systems of currency. Axes were only one type. Your reviewer is hardly fair in classing this amongst theories. At all events, it is not a "preposterous theory", but a fact, that similar axes, pierced for stringing like Chinese cash, are now used as "coins" in Africa and once were so used in America; whilst there is much evidence for an axe-currency in Greek lands, as may be seen from the authorities (like myself, collectors of facts) whom I gueste in the book quote in the book.

Your reviewer is also wrong in supposing that I wished to discuss the origin of tithes. I merely indicated the range of evidence for the tithe in kind in the Greek area, then proceeded to the memorial offering given in place of the tithe in kind, which I venture to think proved to be a subject of some interest. I gladly leave to your reviewer the task of theorising about

Babylon. He will doubtless be able to explain why

the tithe does not appear in Homer.

I am much gratified to find that my book really is what I meant it to be, a record of facts. I hold the view, which I hope your reviewer will not repudiate, that before making theories it is necessary to know the facts. When I began to examine this subject I could not find out what the facts were, so I collected them, and there they are for anybody to theorise on. Unfortunately it is impossible quite to do without theory, but my theories, such as they are (and I gather that your reviewer does not like them) grew out of the facts: I leave them with equanimity to time, and no one will be more pleased than I shall be if better ones are discovered. When I looked for facts, on beginning my work, I found plenty of theories, some of them based on no facts at all; and it is one of these preconceived theories which suggested Mr. Evans' Great Labyrinth Myth to which your reviewer refers. The latest discovery, which he mentions with bated breath, I will consider when I am informed of the facts. I fear I am incorrigible in my desire for facts. However, no facts can prove that, if axes are dedicated to a ever, no facts can prove that, it axes are dedicated to a deity that deity must be Zeus; because the same axes are dedicated to Artemis and to Apollo, as may be seen in my catalogue of facts. A deposit of votive axes then proves nothing but that axes were dedicated, which we know already to be a fact. Nor would the worship of an axe as a fetish prove it to be the symbol of any Greek deity; nor would the laying of the axe on a block ready for use prove the axe to be a good and the a block ready for use prove the axe to be a god and the block to be "horns of consecration".

Thanking you for your kind appreciation of my book, I am, yours faithfully,

It is Mr. Rouse who is mistaken, as he will find on It is Mr. Rouse who is mistaken, as he will find on referring to the report of the excavator "Annual of the British School at Athens" vi. pp. 103, 109, and to the "Journal of Hellenic Studies" xxi. p. 111. As for tithes, Mr. Rouse discusses "the origin of the tithe", to use his own words, on p. 55 of his book, and in his index refers to pp. 39 ff. for the "origin" of tithes. What we complained of, however, was not his "theorising" on the subject, but his ignarance of the realistic control of the scaling in the subject. ing" on the subject, but his ignorance of the preliminary facts.-ED. S.R.]

#### ONLY THE SON OF A FARMER.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

15 S. Mary's Square, Paddington, W. 30 September, 1902.

-I am a farmer's son, and the patronising way in which Mr. James J. Shaw has written of farmers in his letter to you, on "Ireland and Free-trade", amuses me. Mr. Shaw's name is certainly Celtic; but Freetrade has so weakened his memory that he has forgotten all about the history of old-time Celtic farmers. Who were these old-time farmers? One of them, my grand-mother's ancestor Sir Norman Macleod, was knighted by King Charles II., and his descendants have soldiers and farmers until sporting estates and Free-trade have played havoc with the Highlands of Scotland. The Army List for 1814 shows that in that year there were 955 Highland officers in the British regiments of the line alone (exclusive of the Indian army); and I undertake to say without fear of contradiction that three-fourths of these officers were the sons of Gaelic-speaking Highland farmers. Moreover, the following quotation from "Macbeth" will remind Mr. Shaw of the fact that the Highlander is of Irish origin :

> The merciless Macdonwald-(Worthy to be a rebel, for to that, The multiplying villainies of nature Do swarm upon him) from the western isles Of Kernes and Gallowglasses is supplied."

I also commend to the careful consideration of Mr. James J. Shaw an interesting book called "The Brave Sons of Skye", by Lieutenant-Colonel John MacInnes, and also the Clan Histories of the Macdonalds, the Macleods, the MacKenzies, and the Macraes. From all these books Mr. Shaw will learn something worth knowing about the sons of old-time farmers who were the kith and kin of the farmers of Ulster.

The heroic deeds of the 74th and 78th Highlanders, when these regiments were officered by farmers' sons, inspired the late Poet Laureate to write the following stirring lines in his Ode on the death of Wellington :-

> " For this is England's greatest son, He that gained a hundred fights, Nor ever lost an English gun, This is he that far away Against the myriads of Assaye Clashed with his fiery few-and won."

> > I am, Sir, your obedient servant, DONALD N. REID.

P.S.—The following lines from John Casey's rebel poem, "The Rising of the Moon", will appeal strongly to the mind of every true Celt, be he Highland or

"'O, then, tell me Shawn O'Fenall, where the gath'rin' is to be?

At the old spot by the river, right well known to

you and me; One word more—for signal token, whistle up the

marchin' tune,
With your pike upon your shoulder, by the risin' of the moon'".

#### ALEXANDRE DUMAS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

London, W., 24 September, 1902.

-After reading in last week's SATURDAY REVIEW an article headed by the title of my book, I am personally quite glad to leave my rather petulant critic in the enjoyment of opinions which seem peculiarly his own. enjoyment of opinions which seem peculiarly his own. But, as a matter of more general concern, your readers—of whom I am always one—must be disappointed that the writer has not followed up so promising a beginning as he made. "Foolish" and "garrulous" are piquant adjectives, inviting illustration even if they do not demand—as most people would suppose—some justification. My critic, however, preferring a safer course meanders away through a column of vapid course meanders away through a column of vap generality and antique platitude, informing us, e. that "Dumas came in on the tide of romanticism column of vapid that "Dumas was a perfectly frank and outspoken character", and so on—trite propositions which no one, I imagine, is ambitious to dispute. Yet doubtless it is wise to avoid particularities: they are dangerous, as may be seen from the one definite statement in his article. "Mr. Davidson", says he, "contrives to leave us in a complete mist as to what Dumas did and why he did it". Well, the mist—if there be one—is not of my making: its origin must be sought elsewhere; and as mists have a habit of spreading outwards, I sincerely hope—in the public interest—that my critic is careful to keep his study windows shut. For my part, I will fling back no epithets: I will merely say that the book—as everyone who has read it knows—is full of the things that Dumas did, narrated in perfectly unambiguous language.

And let me conclude with a quite amiable apologue. And let me conclude with a quite amiable apologue. There was once an unfortunate man who sat down to dinner with the best intentions; but by ill chance, at a very early stage—even at the hors-d'œuvre—he swallowed a morsel so indigestible as to preclude all further appetite. Not otherwise my critic (I take the hint from him), violently upset by the preface of my book, has had little relish for anything beyond. I am so sorry: indeed, had I foreseen this event, I would have transferred the offending preface to the other end of the book: in which case my critic, I am sure, would of the book; in which case my critic, I am sure, would not have got so far, and so would have been spared all those distressing symptoms which it has obviously been

his misfortune to undergo.

Your obedient servant,
ARTHUR F. DAVIDSON.

#### "THE KEY TO JANE EYRE."

#### To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—One word in reply to Mr. F. C. Constable. I did not for a moment intend to imply that "Jane Eyre" would be the less a work of genius if it were proved that some of its raw material came from previous authors. (For instance, the end of the mad Mrs. Rochester in the burning house may well have been suggested by "Ivanhoe.") My argument was that Mr. Malham - Dembleby, with his "thick-set" and "square-built", his fairy caves and trap-doors, had failed to establish the least presumption that anything had been borrowed from the particular source which he cited. There seems just as little ground for his initial assumption, that it had always been a mystery how Charlotte Brontë—who had been writing stories ever since she was in the nursery—could have invented the incidents of "Jane Eyre".

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

H. V. R.

#### To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

#### Office of the "Sphere".

SIR,—I delayed entering into the discussion raised in your columns concerning "Jane Eyre" until I had had an opportunity of reading the book upon which that discussion is founded. The writer of the article must have assumed that only one copy of the book on Craven—the one in his possession—was now in existence. It is to be regretted that he did not submit his copy of the book to you with his article, although that must have necessitated the prompt consignment of the article to your waste paper basket. Here is the title of the book by Mr. F. Montagu published in 1838" without which", we are told, "Jane Eyre' and 'Wuthering Heights' and likewise in some particulars 'Shirley' and 'Villette' were to the world practically locked books". Your contributor is careful not to give the title in full. The fact that it is a tourist's guide would have excited your suspicions.

"Gleanings in Craven, or the Tourist's Guide, containing a Description of Places of Public Interest at Bolton Abbey, Skipton, Kilnsey, Malham, Ingleborough, Ingleton, Clapham, Ambleside, Windermere, &c." London: Simpkin Marshall and Co., and J. Tasker, Skipton; P. Palliser, Harrogate; and all other booksellers.

This tourist's guide is in the form of six letters, and at the end of each there is much useful information concerning churches, chapels, and inns of a kind that such books affect. There are in this volume as a matter of course many places and names well known to every resident in Yorkshire, as for example, Ingleborough and Clapham, Sir Ingram Clifford of Skipton Castle and Miss Richardson Currer of Eshton Hall. These names and places were familiar to Miss Brontë. I deny, however, that there is a line or a word in this little guide-book that could have been of the slightest importance to the author of "Jane Eyre" and her sisters even if they had read it. Moreover, some of the names mentioned in your contributor's article as common to "Jane Eyre" and to the Tourist's Guide are not to be found in Montagu's little book—at least, I cannot find them there. Although when it is known that the work is a Guide Book that is of little moment. I regret that you should have been made the victim of what if you are endowed with an unusual measure of amiability you will consider a playful hoax.

#### I am, Sir, yours sincerely,

#### CLEMENT K. SHORTER.

[We do our best to be hospitable to correspondents who come with some information or useful comment. Mr. Shorter brings instead waggishness. However we print his letter by way of recognition of the self-restraint he has no doubt exercised in keeping so long out of this discussion.—Ed. S. R.]

#### REVIEWS.

#### LAZARUS AND DIVES.

"Rich and Poor in the New Testament." By Orello Cone. London: Black. 1902. 6s.

WHEN Matthew Arnold spoke of the sweet reasonableness of Christianity it was in the sense, perhaps, in which he might have spoken of the sweet reasonableness of S. Francis. The original gospel was certainly not "safe", moderate, or likely to conciliate society. Even the Old Testament prophets and legissociety. Even the Old Testament prophets and legis-lators, with a simple social problem to solve—the scant measure, the wicked balances, lawless greed crushing defenceless Naboths or robbing the fatherless—have been called Utopian dreamers. The Mosaic year of release, or enactments for the relief of the poor borrower, are roughly criticised as shortsighted and unstatesmanlike. Political economy will not allow every man to sit under his own vine and fig-tree. Still it was a comparatively simple thing for Job, in a patriarchal state of society, to cause the widow's heart to sing for joy, to be eyes to the blind and feet to the lame, a father to poor, and the plucker of the spoil out of the jaws of the unrighteous. Our Lord however was legislating for all ages to come. How are His precepts to be applied to our highly complex and artificial civilisation? Worth might enable a Damascus dateseller to grasp the sceptre, but hardly a Finsbury grocer. It was easier of old to climb from the gutter than it is now to rise from the suburbs. And poverty now does not mean a handful of rice and a pitcher of water, but the slum and the work-house in one stratum of life, inability to educate one's children, seamy anxiety and sordid worry, in another. The φιλάργυροι among ourselves are certainly not fewer than in Pharisee times; but the oppression of the needy is less direct, less conscious and unblushing. The pushing of the weak to the wall seems almost the inevitable consequence of social and economic evolution. Could the Divine teaching about poverty and riches be acted on literally even in the first century? "Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath cannot be My disciple." "Give to everyone that asketh thee, and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again." "If thou wouldest be perfect, go, sell that thou hast and give to the poor and thou shalt have treasure in heaven." Are these imposperfect, go, sell that thou hast and give to the poor and thou shalt have treasure in heaven." Are these impossible paradoxes merely? S. Luke's Gospel, in which the strongest teachings of this kind are found, is asserted by a German critic to have given a "harsh" and "coarse" turn to the Master's real teaching. Someone suggests that the poor Jewish-Christian churches of Palestine doctored the record, and Dr. Cone talks about a possible Ebionitic colouring of the two books of which his bias will allow to the beloved Physician only a putative authorship. Thus in S. Luke it is the poor, not poor in spirit, whose beatitude is declared, the hungry, not those who hunger for righteousness; while woes are added for the rich, the full, for those who laugh and those of whom men speak

We are not convinced by our author that in such apologues as Dives and Lazarus—"thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things"—or the Rich Fool it is wealth as wealth, rather than the selfish use of it, which is reproached, any more than the rich whom S. James bids to howl and weep for the miseries coming upon them were the Peabodys, Gibbses or Dukes of Westminster of the day. That very early epistle, written for non-Christian as well as Christian Israelites, goes on to speak of labourers openly defrauded of their hire, of wanton luxury and of murder. Dr. Cone however rightly rejects the easy glossing of Our Lord's uncompromising words which makes them a mere exhortation to a right use of possessions, large or small. The mediæval Church, with its renunciations and vows, its voluntary poverty and "self-emptying", was surely more in touch with the evangelic teaching than ours, one of whose bishops, fresh from the ascetic Orient, recently found a proof of the tenets of Protestantism in the wealth which it had brought to the nations which so comfortably profess it. The Gospel regards wealth as a hindrance and deceitful. The camel cannot pass the needle's eye, and the rich man could not pass the

narrow gate into the kingdom were it not that with God nothing is impossible. And then comes the large promise to them that leave all for the kingdom's sake. Possessors of the unrighteous mammon are counselled by a wise "œconomy" to rid themselves of it that those on whom they have dispensed it may receive them into the eternal tabernacles. "Sell that ye have and give alms; make for yourselves purses which wax not old." Not a word to the rich about the "ethics of consumption", nor to the poor to emulate Dr. Smiles's heroes. But to the poor glad tidings of the kingdom are preached.

The key to these and other Gospel utterances is undoubtedly "the kingdom". It was at hand, and Our Lord authoritatively declared the conditions of entrance. In the Beatitudes He is not depicting the rounded Christian character but the state of heart—poverty of spirit, which is not the same as poor-spiritedness—which disposes men to receive the kingdom. Dr. Cone, writing it seems as a Unitarian, imagines the Speaker to have shared a current misconception about the visible nearness of the Royal Dispensation. He distinguishes transient and permanent elements in Our Lord's teaching. But Pentecost in one sense ushered in a Reign which in another sense is not yet "come". The Church is the kingdom of God in the making. In every age that kingdom has to be "received", and never but in one way, "as a little child" and by those who have learned to renounce all.

It does not follow that the test of perfect detachment comes to all alike, but perhaps everyone is tested in that which is to him  $\phi l \lambda r \alpha r \sigma v$ , dearest. Our Lord counselled actual poverty, as He (and S. Paul after Him) counselled virginity to such as could receive it. Yet the Man of Sorrows Himself, justifying wisdom in a different way from the skin-clad Baptist, had for thirty years a home, and turned water into wine at a marriage. He was honoured by the rich in cradle and tomb. To private ownership He owed it that He had where to eat the Passover and to withdraw for privacy in His agony. After the Ascension the little confraternity of disciples had all things in common. But the communism was never compulsory, and after a chapter or two it is found replaced by almsgiving. S. Paul tells Christians that the time is short, and urges those who have wives to be as though they had none and those who possess as though they possessed not. But he exalts the mystical sanctity of matrimony and forbids divorce, while it is the avaricious not the rich who are declared to have no inheritance in the kingdom. Master and servant, male and female are "one man" in Christ Jesus. Yet the man is the head of the woman, and servants are to be in subjection to their masters. The family and society are to go on. In S. John the simple lesson of love of the brethren and compassion towards a fellow-Christian in need is insisted on.

It is clear then that the "Christian Socialist" notion that Our Lord was a reformer who aimed at the amelioration of the lot of the struggling wage-earner and a gradual readjustment of temporal advantages is a delusion. He "had compassion on the multitude", but it was as sheep not having a shepherd. He fed hunger and healed disease, but He bade men think little of what happened to the body. His rebuke of the sweater, of the rookery landlord, of the speculator who ruins the widow and orphan that he may live in Park Lane, may be taken for granted. The "East-End" life of a modern city could only have grown up by Christ being forgotten—like the West End life. Neither, so far as we can judge, seems likely to prepare men for the kingdom. But Our Lord distinctly said that "comfort" and "good things" make it harder and "evil things" and lack of comfort make it easier for the kingdom to find a lodging in the heart. Now however it is affirmed that no one can be a Christian on less than a pound a week, and that it is the duty-of the saints to contend earnestly for an eight-hour day, a bath room and a pianoforte. After all Adam and Eve did not live in a slum, yet they went wrong. Our Lord's whole teaching was that men should exchange baidw obros for that vita venturi saeculi which a radical clergyman impudently rendered "I believe in the life of the twentieth century". It was not

equality of opportunity that He taught but equality of consideration. He said nothing about old-age pensions or model settlements, but much about the relation of the soul to God. Philanthropy in both Testaments is primarily theological. It is agreed that no one can stand right with God who does not try to elevate mankind. All the corollaries of Love are the teachings of Jesus Christ. But it is the standpoint which matters—whether in the "Go, speak in the Temple to the people all the words of this Life", the last word begins with a small letter or a capital, and whether "life" is  $\beta$ ios or  $\zeta$ ωή.

#### VICTORIAN PROSE MASTERS.

"Victorian Prose Masters: Thackeray, Carlyle, George Eliot, Matthew Arnold, Ruskin, George Meredith." By W. C. Brownell. London: Nutt. 1902. 6s. net.

PURE criticism without distinction, without humour, without anecdote, and without comparative illustration is dreary reading. If it be sound and sensible it is apt to leave the same impression on us as the parson's sermon left on Tennyson's farmer "I thowt a said whot a owt to 'a said an' I coom'd awaäy". It is not given to every critic to prattle as delightfully and as instructively as Mr. Augustine Birrell or to and as instructively as Mr. Augustine Birrell or to throw in as much entertainment by the way, as in the graceful buffoonery of Mr. Andrew Lang. But it is given to many hundreds to invest with the dignity of print and proclaim to the world what might just as well have been confined to a Young Men's Mutual Improvement Society or to their own firesides. We mean nothing disrespectful to Mr. Brownell, and we really think he deserves a wider audience. But we are not comfortable about him. When so much depends on the ipse dixit of a writer we should like to see his credentials. We look for them in his work and find them not. For Mr. Brownell, whatever may be his attainments and accomplishments outside the area of the particular authors whom he discusses, confines himself simply to recording the impressions which the reading of those particular authors has made on him. In other words Mr. Brownell has apparently read simply that he might write, and Mr. Brownell appears to have read no further. Nor have his critiques, whether sound or unsound, any pretention to originality, or to essential independence of judgment or to any particular insight. And Mr. Brownell, if we may be permitted to speak quite frankly, has a very exasperating habit of repeating platitudes and absurdities for which he is not responsible, with strong expressions of approval. As here for example: "'The moral life of man' says Froude, in one of those sentences that tend to make literature of his writings 'is like the flight of a bird in the air. He is sustained only by effort and when he ceases to exert himself he falls.'" If Mr. Brownell knew anything of moral philosophy he would have known that the remark was one of those flippant cynicisms in which Froude so often made himself ridiculous by indulging. Sometimes, but not often, Mr. Brownell writes nonsense, as when speaking of Thackeray's style he says: "like his art and like the world of his imagination it is an outgrowth of the most interesting personality perhaps that has expressed itself in prose". Again; in what way can the world of "Vanity Fair" of "Pendennis" and of "The Newcomes", the world of the most realistic painter of life since Fielding, be an "outgrowth" of the novelist's "personality"? Nor is it anything but absurd to speak of Carlyle's "Cromwell" as "his greatest work", or to say of his humour that it is "a trifle flat" and "artificial" and "almost altogether composed of that element in his style which is its most crying defect, excess, namely: excess and caprice". To say, too, of a poet like Matthew Arnold, the poet pre-eminently of the spiritual unrest of a transitional age, that he inhabits "the serene uplands of poetic thought" is to say what at least two-thirds of his best and most characteristic work emphatically refutes. Ruskin again is pronounced world of his imagination it is an outgrowth of the most work emphatically refutes. Ruskin again is pronounced to be "a born poet". Mr. Brownell may rest assured that any writer who possesses in a very

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marked degree the power of expression, had he been a "born poet", would have expressed himself in poetry, and not in verses which proved that he never could have been a poet. In many most important respects Ruskin's temperament was the very reverse of poetical. But whatever deductions a conscientious critic, irritated by such platitudes and paradoxes as we have described, must make from the merits of these essays, merit remains. "If Thackeray had no head above his eyes he had at least a heart below them and the fact is a controlling influence in his philosophy." That was worth saying and is well said. So again, "of feeling that is legitimated by the tribunal of reason, Arnold is the poet par excellence". The essay on George Eliot, if containing nothing particularly new or striking, is well worth reading, and the essay on Mr. George Meredith's novels, if a little too exuberantly eulogistic, is on the whole excellent.

#### ROMAN AND BARBARIAN.

"The Barbarian Invasion of Italy." By Pascal Villari. Two vols. London: Unwin. 1902. 32s.

HE author of this brisk and vivid account of Italy and the Barbarians is already well known to us by his excellent works on Savonarola Machiavelli, and Florentine history. He represents the new and sobered school of Italian students; and betrays in no small degree the reaction of common sense and better know-ledge against the dangerous theories, historic pre-judices, and ignorant misconceptions which spoiled and still spoils the work of the Italian "Liberators". A wide interval stretches between this interpreter of the past and such a statesman and historian as Mazzini, with his disorderly zeal, strong hatreds, and vague ideals. Villari writes a popular book for young Italy. He wishes to do justice to the pagan Empire, and to the Holy See. He does not start with the Machiavellian assumption that the Papacy has wrought nothing but evil for his country; he deprecates those who "try to throw into the shade the undeniably great part played by the Popes in our history". His is a tempered by the Popes in our history". His is a tempered patriotism, past the hot fever of Garibaldian insurrection; he is neither Guelf nor Ghibelline. He feels tion; he is neither Guelf nor Ghibelline. He feels keenly the onesided bias of native historians; and the "humiliation of seeing foreigners produce better books than we Italians can write". He notes somewhat naively the significant "neglect among us of religious studies, of theological history or Christianity"; and he finds the task much more difficult than he anticipates. Among the authorities for this work, covering in some Among the authorities for this work, covering in some 470 pages the history of about 800 years, we are glad to see, in an honoured place, the names of Bury and Hodgkin; and are only startled to find there is no mention of Gregorovius, who covers exactly the same ground and has left a work of imperishable value and interest. He has made good use of his authorities, ancient or modern. He is always clear and never indefinite: he has distinct views and is not afraid of them. definite; he has distinct views and is not afraid of them. There is no reason why his volume whether in English or Italian, should not provide a useful and on the whole accurate account to those who are beginning to study the "Origins of European Civilisation".

the "Origins of European Civilisation".

But it is a pity that in the drudgery of detail the work was not submitted before publication to a specialist to correct dates and names. This negligence irritates a reader, who is in full sympathy with the writer and his task, and welcomes both his method of presentation and his political lessons. Even in the generalisations, if they lie outside the period, as in the first chapter, he is unsatisfactory and superficial; he raises a host of controversial points, and betrays in inadequacy of knowledge or rashness of assertion that he is behind the best modern research. Plotinus, though he knew Gordian III (40) did not influence him but Gallienus, five and twenty years later: (41) Julian did not succeed on the death of Constantine: Ammianus is made "to repeat the statement of Orosius" (62), who wrote at least fifty years later: to designate in a single mention Synesius of Cyrene, as a "rhetorician" is certainly unfair (66): the consistent spelling "Ætius", for the great rival of Bonifacius in the fifth century, is surely

wrong: and we more than suspect (156) that Bishop "Epiphanius" should be "Ennodius". We are honestly surprised by finding these two incompatible criticisms within fifteen lines; Justinian (193) "was blindly enamoured of a beautiful but disastrous woman, of the Lady Hamilton type, who was dissolute, cruel and unboundedly arrogant". Yet from the moment of her association as Empress-Regent "she kept her passions under control, led a decorous life, and proved herself a woman of great mental power and remarkable courage". We cannot wonder then if he gives great weight to the miserable "Anecdota" and considers this Procopius' work. His extreme caution in the mild statement Phocas "breathed his last" implies, we imagine, real ignorance of the facts: his vague insinuations of "corruption" under Justinian (269, 270) belong to a happily obsolete school of historians: and we must resolutely reject the curious statement (390) that "in theory all government emanated from the Emperor alone", for, until the papal consecration which sanctified the Imperial line, the constitution was Republican, and the Emperor only its first servant and executive magistrate. The following errors must surely be attributed rather to the translator than the author, but they seriously impair the latter's credibility; on p. 338, line 24, we must insert a comma after States of the Church, and read on "and comprised (i.e. the Duchy of Benevent) nearly the whole of Southern Italy", instead of making this comprehensive statement in favour of the then insignificant Patrimony of Peter: on p. 378 lines 12 and 13 is the remarkable sentence, "led to the downfall of the Franks and favoured the rise of the Lombardic power", the two names should obviously be interchanged. To conclude fault-finding;—Villari apparently believes in two great Byzantine sovereigns named Athanasius! (360 and 385) known to other historians as Anastasius; and on 397 he detaches the numeral III. from the unhappy Childeric, last of Merovingians and adds it twice with an air of triumph t

The Barbarian infoads were no mere invasion of a foreign race and the overthrow of an existing constitution. The problem for statesmen was curiously similar to the difficulties of the last days of the Republic and the Early Empire; where should this wholesale welcoming of aliens stop? Where was the line to be drawn between desirable and undesirable immigrants in this lavish bestowal of franchise and allotment? The "Roman Nationalist" party had once suggested, and this after a struggle, the peninsula of Italy as a limit; next, the Provinces were included; then the status of all citizens was equalised; and finally the party was confined to those who objected somewhat faintly to the Barbarian ascendancy over the ancient Roman stock. The Anti-Barbarians brand all the Liberals with the name of traitor; Honorius is alarmed and Stilicho perishes for having invited the Goths into Gaul; Bonifacius summons the Vandals into Africa (94); Aëtius has an understanding with Attila and fails to pursue his victory at Chalons (114, 116); Eudoxia, the Empress, calls Genseric to Rome; Honoria is enamoured of Attila—as Galla Placidia of Ataulphus—and, finally, the Lombard invasion is all due to the spleen of the nonagenarian Narses. At the slightest provocation this charge of unpatriotic "barbarism" is trumped up. There were waves of Liberalism followed by feeble attempts at Spartan "xenelasia"; "Rome for the Romans" as "China for the Chinese". The settlers (for they never enter as conquerors) are alternately coaxed, courted, starved, deceived and advanced to the highest offices. Rome had started on her historic course of universal comprehensiveness; and, when the Empire seemed to shrink from the logic of its own policy, the Church took up the task. Yet between the Teutonic tribes of Germany, and the Romans there was the strongest bond of union; identity of origin, of interests, of faith, of political future. The Germans were to become not merely a tolerated portion but the essential heart of the Imperial and comprehensive ideal. Th

abandoned the scheme of supplanting "Romania" by "Gothia", and lent all his energies to maintaining Roman law, civil administration and the whole inherited complex of Romano-Christian civilisation. But the Huns belonged to a different race. The Turanian hordes are incapable and intolerant of such influences; they are nothing but "an agglomeration of independent tribes, entered into a confederation" under a strong personality and for purposes of plunder. We have seen under Timour and Genghis such hordes pour over Eastern Europe and dominate the whole of Asia, from Pekin to S. Petersburg. But they are never permanent settlers; their restlessness can never feel the soothing effects of fixed occidental life.

The first of the Barbarians who in anyway upset the Roman fabric of Society were the Lombards. Odoacer and Theodoric "came to rule Italy as delegates of the Empire". They merely led a militant caste into a pacific region which kept its customs and its peculiar government. But the Lombards were rebels, and superseded Roman law by the first written barbarian code. Not till 600 was this rebellion conscious; not till 775 did Rome realise that Constantinople had abdicated, and that elsewhere must be found armed "champion and protector" for a civilisation in its

abdicated, and that elsewhere must be found armed "champion and protector" for a civilisation in its essence and its origin pacific and defenceless.

We need not do more than call attention to the excellence and lucidity of Villari's remarks on the autonomy of the Italian towns, under Lombard or Byzantine rule; on the voluntary cession of freemen under the tutelage of a powerful neighbour; on the gradual withdrawal of direct popular influence on papal and on kingly elections; on the ambiguity of the Petrine territorial claims, whether restitution of confiscated estates, or actual sovereignty, was demanded; on the origin of Feudalism, as, "like all mediæval institutions the product of a confused medley of Roman and Teutonic elements" and we can conclude with an honest tribute to an impartial and conscientious work, which in spite of minor blemishes redounds to the credit of the heart and the brain of its author.

#### POLO OF TO-DAY.

"Modern Polo." By Captain E. D. Miller. London: Hurst and Blackett. 1902. 16s. net.

VERY little first-class polo was seen during the past season, except in a few tournament games chiefly at the new Roehampton Club, and even here, with the exception of the interrupted Inauguration Cup game, the match between the Old Etonians and Old Harrovians, and that played by the former against the Old Rugbeians in the semi-finals of the Public Schools Tournament—a creation of the Messrs. Miller at Ranelagh in 1901—there was very little polo of the first rank, although the average was good. And although the state of the ground during the second and third International matches doubtless had much to do with the matter, it cannot be maintained by those who are familiar with polo at its best that the play was at any time representative either of British possibilities or even the best form of the individual members of the winning team, with the exception of Mr. George Miller and Mr. Cecil Nickalls. As for the form of the original English team, it can only be explained by those who are aware of the extraordinary methods of preparation for the first game. And their consequent collapse was therefore responsible in a measure for the undue degree of sensation attaching to the one-sided games won by the reconstituted team.

A good deal has been said and written of late to the effect that there are too many minor tournaments nowadays; that players who take part in these, especially if in the winning team, come to fancy themselves better than they are in reality; and that members' games are not duly umpired and the rigour of the game adhered to as often as should be the case; with the result that rules are ignored or never properly learnt, and a dangerous (and at any rate unimproving) style of play engendered. The experience of any continual spectator competent to judge certainly goes far to bear out this last contention; yet so far from there being any truth in the first statement about tourna-

ments, or "too much polo", the fact is that the more there are the greater will be the chance of improvement. There is sure to be at least one really good man, or one better than the others, in any given team; from whom the rest can learn far more in a short time than was possible in the days of fewer matches. Not only so, but the members of such a team, by playing habitually together, will gain that knowledge of each other's play which goes so far to produce the combined team-play that is the essence of modern polo, sooner than they could hope to do under any other system of training. And it is hardly likely that the winning of some little piece of plate worth three sovereigns or so will give any man exaggerated ideas of his own prowess.

aggerated ideas of his own prowess.

Other features of importance which the International matches brought into prominence were the value of a thorough school-training—and that not of the purely military kind—for all ponies intended for first-class polo; and even more the great advantage of good horsemanship. For good horsemen though the American players were, they were not, with the exception of Mr. Foxhall Keene, so good as the members of the English team. This, as well as their lack of combination, due to the greatly overrated handicap system in vogue in America (which certain theorists wish to import) rather than to the superiority of their ponies, has since been admitted by the American captain as the real cause of their defeat. One would be inclined to say that the inferiority of the American ponies was due rather to want of size and weight than to any lack of quality; some of these ponies, notably Mr. Keene's beautiful little mare, Texiana, having little else wrong about them. Yet two of the best of the so-called English ponies, Langoota and Bendigo, were bred respectively in Argentina and Canada.

Singularly enough, however, the author of "Modern Polo" in his valuable handbook to the game, states "that many men play polo well in spite of being bad horsemen". Certainly, as he goes on to say, poor horsemanship should not deter a man from giving the game a trial; as tending to improve his horsemanship more than anything else. But since the majority of accidents in India have occurred through young and indifferent horsemen taking part in station games on ponies beyond their control, one is not inclined to subscribe to Captain Miller's recommendation in any but a restricted sense. Nor, for that matter, to his previous statement; seeing that it is difficult to name any eminent player, past or present, whose horsemanship is not one of his strongest points. And just at this point too much importance can hardly be given to the superiority for the purposes of polo of the haute école or circus method—in which the artificial aid of the "weight of the rein on the neck" is not used—over the military riding-school system; as well as the advantage to be derived by the player from the knowledge and practice of the former. Yet the author of "Modern Polo", who advocates the latter system in his instructions on turning, mentions later on (p. 126) that the use of the right rein to turn to the right, instead of applying the weight of the left rein on the neck, tends to make the pony shy off the ball. This is true enough; but, as it is only to be expected with a pony so trained, the fact strongly argues against a system in which artificial rein-aids are used, and may be confused or hindered by the exigencies of the

Now that the Polo and Riding Pony Society is doing such useful work, and there is increasing probability of its breeding a definite type of the right height when aged, some remarks as to the type most in vogue during the past season or two are not inappropriate. The society's experiments are still on their trial; but the argument of its opponents, that players will not encourage it, is idle; since the latter have not yet had the opportunity to do so. Of course, no one expects that he will succeed in breeding a pony which will necessarily prove a first-class playing animal when trained. But if the society's experiments succeed in establishing a definite breed of the right stamp and height when aged, as the raw material, there can be little doubt that players who train their own ponies will

be able to obtain a larger and more trustworthy supply at a cheaper rate—much to the benefit of the interests of the game. And the fact—also noted by Captain Miller—that the majority of the best playing ponies are mares leads us to expect that hereditary quality will duly come into play, if only those interested in breeding the raw material for polo will lean upon it rather than upon a mere scale of purely external show-points.

Nevertheless since type is only second in importance one must contrast the opinions of the two existing factions among players; the one maintaining that the miniature hunter is the better animal, while the other advocates the type of the miniature 'chaser. The author

Nevertheless since type is only second in importance one must contrast the opinions of the two existing factions among players; the one maintaining that the miniature hunter is the better animal, while the other advocates the type of the miniature 'chaser. The author of "Modern Polo", who has treated this question exhaustively, strongly recommends the former in his chapter on the choice of a pony. Rightly enough he says that the nearer thoroughbred it is, the better, and that provided it has shape, substance, power, and scope, it does not matter if it is an inch lower than standard. But when he says that there are ten good ones of the hunter type to every one of the 'chaser stamp, and later on increases this figure to twenty, he introduces the fallacy that there are as many ponies of the latter type, good or bad, in existence as of the former; whereas the figures he names about represent the relative proportion. Again, he leads us into an impasse in this respect. Since he particularly expatiates on the merits of Dynamite, Charlton, Little Fairy, Rex, the various ponies played by Lord Shrewsbury (a player since his fifteenth year, who will have none but the 'chaser type) Colonel de Lisle's Mary Morrison, and, lastly, the record-priced pony, Mr. Harold Brassey's Sailor; all of which are typical miniature steeplechasers up to welter weights in the highest class of polo. But since this last would not be the case unless such ponies were also able to turn, stop and stay as well as the closer-knit hunter type, the fact that they stride longer and are not galloping so hard to attain a given pace as the latter, goes far to show the superiority of their type.

#### NOVELS.

"If I were King." By Justin Huntly McCarthy. London: Heinemann. 6s.

It is a bold thing to follow Sir Walter Scott. The King whom Villon wished he were was Louis and Sir Walter Scott never gave a better example of his historic imagination than in the portrayal of Louis' character in "Quentin Durward". Perhaps wisely Mr. McCarthy keeps close to the character that Scott, not with entire accuracy, gave to the King; and, after all, the association with such a king, so preserved in the memory of the novel-reading public, gives this novel, slight though it is, an extrinsic quality of no little value. The plot was made for a play, not a novel, and the "curtains" are not always carefully concealed. But in one way the book gains not a little in style and precision by coming after the play. The author knew exactly what he was going to say and has had time to say it well. There is no scamping of phrase or incident and nothing more helps the sense of illusion than a note of decision. It is curious that Villon has not been more often taken for a hero. He had most of the qualities: genius, courage, picturesqueness and in this age of white-washing his unhappy tendency to thieve, murder, and backbite are easily discounted. In Mr. McCarthy's hands he has all the virtues, and the genius is made a felt quantity by very clever adaptations of his prettier verses, and the picturesqueness preserved by an ingenious patchwork of real incidents. The utmost realisation of the wish "If I were King"—itself the refrain of a rondeau—is the motive. Those who have not been to the St. James's will enjoy the progress of the poet from winehouse poverty and company to pride of place in court and army. At the best they will also be induced to turn to the real poetry of the real Villon.

"A Bayard from Bengal. By F. Anstey. London: Methuen. 1902. 3s. 6d.
Mr. Anstey ruse as 6d.

Mr. Anstey runs some risk of becoming an international complication. His previous studies of the Bengali Babu have so roused the indignation of that

sensitive class that a formal impeachment of his libellous writings has we believe been seriously considered by representatives of the injured nationality and a protest to the British Government contemplated if not actually preferred. It is of course improbable that the author will incur that extreme penalty for political offence described in Babuese as being "blockheaded with many beheadings" but the present outrage may conceivably excite a quid pro quo which will make him shiver like a tremble and welter in lachrymation. Fearful of sharing his fate we hasten to disown any acceptance of "A Bayard from Bengal" as a fair type of his countrymen. It is undoubtedly exaggerated. The aggrieved Babu will no doubt note the irrelevancy of applying this chivalrous designation to the mixture of boastfulness cowardice and cunning presented unblushingly for popular amusement in the person of Chunder Bindabun Bhosh B.A. whose magnificent and spanking career is here narrated by Hurry Bungsho Jabberjee B.A. and illustrated by a new artist, one Birnadhur Pahtridhji, whose name by the way smacks rather of Bombay than Bengal. A saving sense of humour will enable the suffering product of Calcutta University to laugh, like the rest of us, at the burlesque. Though indeed it hardly rests with a class which has given to the world the biographer of Onoocool Mookerjee to take much exception to the language which Mr. Anstey has reproduced with tolerable—or intolerable accuracy.

"The Passion of Mahael." By Lilian Bowen-Rowlands. London: Unwin. 1902. 6s.

Once more Miss Bowen-Rowlands shows what sympathy and descriptive power can make of a humble romance. She does for some Welsh people something of that which Miss Wilkins has done so often and so successfully for the folk of New England villages. Taking her characters from the cottages of the Pembrokeshire coast she shows them at once in the simplicity of their lives and the complexity of their emotions. "The Passion of Mahael" is indeed mainly concerned with emotion, any special incidents being presented only for the illustration of their effect on the emotional characters of a painful yet realistic drama; painful because the lives of the three chief actors are ruined by the small ambition of the narrow-minded mother of Mahael, who is shown as having forced him into marriage for money. Given such a character as Mahael we doubt whether, with his passion for Phœbe, he ever would have married Lisbeth, but from that point the drama is finely developed. The last page is such an ending as Dr. Ibsen might have given us. In her clear characterisation of individuals, in her admirably restrained pathos, and in her descriptive passages Miss Bowen-Rowlands shows herself possessed of enviable powers; though it may be pointed out that at times she uses too many and too strong adjectives.

"A Strong Necessity." By Isabel Don. London: Jarrold. 1902. 3s. 6d.

Apparently "A Strong Necessity" has found sufficient favour since its first appearance five years ago to justify its republication in the popular Greenback Edition. It is merely a girls' book written with unusual care, in a sensible old-fashioned way, with a gentle old-maidish humour. A considerable grip and appreciation of character are shown in the sketches of Scotch country-town life with its irritating narrowness and odious self-satisfaction. But it is a pity that so many women-writers insist on feminine spite and pettiness, and bestow so much care on what is too dull and distasteful to be suitable for literary purposes. George Eliot set a terrible fashion of dreariness, and nothing less than her genius could make tolerable reading of such ugly coarse material.

"A Life at Stake." By Percy Andreae. London: Ward, Lock. 1902. 6s.

There is only about enough mystery and excitement in this book for a short story in the "Strand Magazine", and padded out to a 6s. novel length it is tiresome. There is the usual pretty nurse sent for from London to treat the usual country patient of mysterious habits, the usual villain whom everyone in the book constantly

assures the reader is an uncommon good fellow, and whom only the nurse and the reader suspect, and the inevitable wonderful person who unravels the mystery, in this case not a detective but a brain specialist. The characters are not particularly interesting, nor is the plot engrossing.

"A Modern Monarch." By Frank C. Lewis. London: Unwin. 1902. 6s.

Mr. Frank Lewis's book would appear to be a first story, and as such shows promise in its style and ambition in its aim—the realisation is not so successful. The title-rôle is evidently suggested by Mr. Rhodes, whose career is faintly sketched as Cæsar, the Premier of Uralia-in other words "A Modern Monarch" is evident that such a subject needs to be very well done indeed to be successful. As it is, the characters in Mr. Lewis's book have all the effect of jackdaws in peacocks' feathers. They say and do a great many things, but they never are—never. Might we suggest to Mr. Lewis that such phrases as "this, his hour of triumph" and "the three of them lived, when together" in a certain place, are redundant and ineffective?

Dissertation on Second Fiddles." By Vincent O'Sullivan. London: Grant Richards. 1902. 6s.

Whimsical, cynical, fantastic and singularly interesting withal is this volume. It is unfortunate however that Mr. Vincent O'Sullivan's pen is as he says so "hard mouthed". It has, in sooth run away with him more than once in these dissertations and hese lended him in disches full of and has landed him in ditches full of somewhat dirty water, from the unpleasant effects of which we heartily wish him a speedy cleansing. The chapter entitled "Of Friends" shows plainly of what good work the author is capable. Too diffuse at times he unquestionably is, but this can be freely forgiven when his dry humour and real touches of pathos are so pleasantly remem-

"North, South and Over the Sea." By M. E. Francis. London: Newnes. 1902. 6s.

London: Newnes. 1902. Os.

Mrs. Francis Blundell has our heartiest thanks for having collected this series of sketches and published them in book form. She seems equally at home in Lancashire, Devonshire and Ireland and it is difficult to say in which she excels. This much is certain, that the humour and pathos of each one of the articles is an unmixed delight. In short a book to read with pleasure and put down with regret.

"The Kidnapped President." By London: Ward Lock. 1902. 6s. By Guy Boothby.

We confess that we opened this volume with mis-givings. We had hitherto found Mr. Boothby's sensational stories wearisome and commonplace as well as illiterate. Here, however, if he has not broken very new ground, he contrives to awaken and sustain our interest, to create plausible personages in the place of his usual marionettes, and to leave us on the whole benevolently amused. He has evidently had the good sense to allow someone to revise his taste and his English, for he offends conspicuously in neither. English, for he offends conspicuously in neither.

#### NEW BOOKS AND REPRINTS.

"The Deer Family." By Theodore Roosevelt and Others. London: Macmillan. 1902. 8s. 6d. net.

This book, one of the "American Sportsman's Library This book, one of the "American Sportsman's Library" series, contains, within the space of its 334 pages, a quantity of well-chosen and well-written information concerning the Cervidæ and pronghorn antelope of North America. This information is up to date, and exceedingly well arranged by experts in the ways and habits of the animals they treat of; and no English sportsman, crossing the Atlantic for autumn shooting in the Far West, ought to travel without having as his companion this handy and convenient volume. We congratulate Mr. Caspar Whitney, the editor of this series, on his list of contributors. All have done their work well. President Roosevelt, for years a Western rancher and a keen sportsman, after a first-rate and most pithy introduction describes mule deer, white-tail deer, pronghorn, and wapiti, and from every point of view deals with his subject—evidently one he loves dearly—in a most interesting manner. The sportsman and the

naturalist are alike sure to be pleased with these chapters. Mr. T. S. Van Dyke takes in hand the deer of the Pacific coast; while Mr. D. G. Elliot and Mr. A. J. Stone furnish very excellent chapters on Caribou and Moose. Dr. Hart Merriam's series of maps, showing the present range of the various animals described, are a great help to the proper understanding and enjoyment of this volume. The editor has also got hold of a really good artist, whose illustrations seem to show that he has had practical experience in their own haunts of the various animals he depicts. Whether this is the case or not his has had practical experience in their own haunts of the various animals he depicts. Whether this is the case or not, his pictures are far above the average of those familiar in sporting works—that of white-tail deer in flight, for example (p. 76) being a beautiful and thoroughly natural drawing. Mr. Carl Rungins, the artist in question, is, we presume, an American; he is certainly to be reckoned with in future in work of this kind. President Roosevelt's introduction ought to be read and pondered by everyone interested in the sport of the future and the preservation of the game now remaining to North America. The subject is handled in a very masterly fashion, and the writer's conclusions have evidently masterly fashion, and the writer's conclusions have evidently been the subject of much thought. He stetches, in a most striking manner, the decline and fall of American great game, and the possibilities of putting limits to that wasteful and butcherly destruction which has obtained during these hundred years past. Two points are especially worthy of note. The first is that in certain localities, where preservation has been decently enforced, game is on the increase again. Thus in New England and New York States, and in New Brunswick New England and New York States, and in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, white-tail deer are now more plentiful than they were thirty years ago, as are moose in Maine and New Brunswick. The other point is that rich folk, even in the democratic States, are beginning to set apart for themselves huge preserves for sporting purposes. "Already" says Mr. Roosevelt "there have sprung up here and there through the country, as in New Hampshire and the Adirondacks, large private preserves. These preserves often serve a most useful purpose, and should be encouraged within reasonable limits; but it would be a great misfortune if they increased beyond a certain extent, or if they took the place of great tracts of wild land which continue as such. Here the author undoubtedly puts his finger upon one of the symptoms and dangers of the future. The United States President's hints on rifles and outfit—the conclusions of a practical hunter—are well worthy of being noted. Altogether this is a first-rate and most satisfactory book.

"Studies in the Lives of the Saints." By Edward Hutton.

"Studies in the Lives of the Saints." By Edward Hutton.
London: Constable. 1902. 3s. 6d.

In spite of affectations and twistings of style or verbal failures such as "crystallised logic", "stained with the world's penury", this is an attractive and interesting book; full of originality and genuine insight, in which are curiously mingled an intense æsthetic, intellectual and temperamental almost hysterical appreciation of mysticism, and a cynical sense of humour which amuses itself with the half-pathetic half-ludicrous simplicities of the saints. As a rule great enthusiasts, sometimes even great geniuses, develop only in one direction, their marvellous intensity, the secret of their strength and accomplishment, having consumed and concentrated in itself every marvellous intensity, the secret of their strength and accomplishment, having consumed and concentrated in itself every other faculty. Their fiery earnestness cannot tolerate, or be amused, or look calmly on. Their looks are bent straightforward, they do not observe, in short the saints have little or no sense of humour—and the "good things "attributed to them are not particularly successful. As the title conveys, Mr. Hutton's book is merely a collection of impressions of certain aspects of saintliness and mysticism as exemplified in the lives of such a wonderful being as S. Augustine. "colder than ice Autton's book is merely a collection or impressions of certain aspects of saintliness and mysticism as exemplified in the lives of such a wonderful being as S. Augustine, "colder than ice, fiercer than fire," who explored and opened out a vast region of spiritual life, with all its endless resources, its riches of consolation, its profundities of subtlety, its heights of ecstasy, its still waters of meditation and reflection, its deserts of dryness and patient endurance, its swift cool streams of comfort and refreshment; all that spiritual world so real to the saint in which alone he can live fully, so strange and incomprehensible to the ordinary man because it is beyond his senses which are so much stronger in their vitality and more clamorous in their demands than his soul. The activities and foundations of S. Dominic, S. Francis, and S. Ignatius Loyola make them a little more comprehensible (if not more commendable) by the ordinary mind. S. Teresa's magnificent intellect and powers of organization, and her extraordinary literary skill give her an indisputable eminence even among the unbelieving. S. Catharine of Siena was distinguished by singular political and diplomatic gifts; S. Catherine Adorni wrote a treatise on Purgatory full of sweetness and inspiration, of devout joy and love, while she spent her life in the nursing and care of the sick and poor. Their conviction of the worthlessness of this life, their negation of temporal satisfaction, in no way prevented them from making a better use of this world's enportunities and gifts than many a Their conviction of the worthlessness of this life, their negation of temporal satisfaction, in no way prevented them from making a better use of this world's opportunities and gifts than many a one convinced of its supreme importance. Saintliness is fruitful, even when, as in the case of S. Rose of Lima, with her unquenchable thirst for suffering and persistent self-destruction, or Blessed Angela of Foligno, with her cheerful sweetness and simplicity, and her passionately loving nature; its activities are

rather of the spirit than of the body. Like flowers, the saints are the loveliness of the world, its fragrance and its light, a world which but for them must needs look ugly and degraded in the eyes of Perfect and Divine Beauty.

"The Catalogue of Early Christian Antiquities and Objects from the Christian East in the Department of British and Mediæval Antiquities and Ethnography of the British Museum." By O. M. Dalton. London. 1901.

This is a valuable work which does credit both to its compiler and to the department under whose auspices it has been issued. The photographs and illustrations with which it is profusely provided are exceptionally good, as also are the descriptions of the objects of which it treats. The work, in fact, will be found indispensable to students of early Christian antiquities. But it serves to make us realise to what an extent the subject has hitherto been neglected in the British Museum. While the monuments of the pagan past have been well cared for and studied, those of the early Church have been practically left to look after themselves. It is time that the Christian remains in the Egyptian or Manuscript collections should be united with those described in the present volume, and that the student of early ecclesiastical history should thus have the same advantages as the student of Greek or Assyrian history who finds all the materials of his subject ready to hand.

"Guide to the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities in the British Museum." London. 1902.

A second edition has been published of this useful guide. All that the visitor to the department can desire to know is contained in it, along with a goodly number of illustrations and photographs. The latter have been well chosen, and some typical archaic inscriptions have been given along with them. An immense amount of information has been packed into a small compass, disputed questions like the age of the Erkomi remains in Cyprus being discreetly avoided. The only thing that might be improved is the map at the end of the volume.

"Grieb's Dictionary of the English and German Languages."
By Arnold Schröer. (Vol. I. English and German
Vol. II. German and English.) London: Frowde. 1902.

Under the learned editorship of Professor Arnold Schröer a tenth edition of this well-known dictionary has been issued. Since the first volume was published the editor has ceased to hold his chair of English Philosophy in the University of Freiburg and has been appointed professor of the English language and literature in the Universe of Commerce Cologne. This new edition meets not only the wants of students of German from the literary and scholarship point of view but of the reader whose wants are of a business or practical character. The language of the present day with its colloquialisms its commercial terms and its technical and scientific expressions is set out with all the precision and according to the new methods of dictionary making. Nothing is wanting to make the work extremely useful to the English and the German student.

"Trust Companies in the United States." By George Cator. Chicago: Johns Hopkins Press. 1902. 50 cents.

Chicago: Johns Hopkins Press. 1902. 50 cents.

The remarkable growth of trust companies in the United States has made them distinctively an American institution. Their resources exceed 1,538,000,000 dollars. Beginning as companies to execute trusts under wills &c. they have now an extensive banking business, undertake receiverships of railways, act as trustees under mortgage deeds of railways and industrial corporations, underwrite issues, and promote enterprises. Being subject to fewer restrictions than the banks they compete severely with them, their small reserves would be a source of danger in times of financial crisis, and the author recommends that they should be brought under federal control.

#### THE OCTOBER REVIEWS.

Germany seems to divide the honours of the October Reviews with the Education Bill. In the "Fortnightly" Calchas and Mr. J. L. Bashford are both keen to throw light on German policy, the former by extracts from German nvitings, the latter by a study of German naval and colonial statistics. Both are intended to warn Great Britain not to be lulled into false security by professions of friendship or disclaimers of hostile intent. Calchas argues that Germany is more likely to join the Dual Alliance to break up British sea power than to do anything to destroy the naval power of the Dual Alliance in order to increase British supremacy. Mr. Bashford's figures, if they have any meaning, show that either the German navy is greater than her colonial needs demand, or that Great Britain's is too small looking to her colonial obligations—a point by the way which Lieutenant L. H. Hordern's useful paper in the "United Service Magazine" tends to emphasise. Dr. Dillon in the "Contem-

porary" makes the astonishing statement that under Prince Bismarck Germany sedulously held aloof from Colonial undertakings. Prince Bismarck we are aware called himself a "no colonies man", but Samoa and New Guinea and Angra Pequena were hardly consistent with a "sedulous aloofness". Germany was no doubt regarded more then than now as "identical with its army, which had no mission to accomplish beyond the seas nor even in the near East." It is however not only in Great Britain and Russia that the idea of a Greater Germany is looked on with misgiving. The "National Review" prints a lengthy and remarkable article by Dr. Kramarz on Europe and the Bohemian Question, which while putting the case of the Czech against the Teuton very ably pleads for the recognition of the importance to Europe at large of preventing Germany from taking action which would threaten the absorption of Austria and realise the programme of the pan-German League. "It is high time that what is going on in Austria should be understood; that a fatalistic view of the process of dismemberment of that country, which can benefit the Germans only, should no longer be entertained; and that it should be made plain to the public opinion of Europe that just as once upon a time the establishment of the Empire of the Danube was essential as a protection from the danger from the East, so it is today no less absolutely essential for the maintenance of the balance of power in Europe, nay, in the world, lest Germany, grown to giant proportions by the absorption of Austria, should gain the mastery of the East, and therewith the mastery of the world."

No less than fifty pages of the "Nineteenth Century" are devoted to the education controversy. Sir John Gorst writes a temperate article in explanation of the Bill and the Bishop of Hereford,—in striking contrast with the Bishop of Rochester who deals with the question in the "Empire Review"—makes an intemperate attack on the authors of the measure and while urging the Nonconformists not to listen to the advice of the extremists becomes rather more Nonconformist than the Nonconformists themselves in stating their objections. A "symposium" opened by Mr. Haldane, who again advises his political friends to let the Bill pass, is contributed to by eight gentlemen representing various religious and educational standpoints. All lean to the view that the defeat of the measure would be a national misfortune, and counsel compromise. In the "Contemporary" Mr. Augustine Birrell devotes several pages to showing that the British people at heart are wholly indifferent to education. As in England so in Ireland the educational issue turns on the religious question. Mr. J. R. Fisher writing in the "National Review" on the ruin of Education in Ireland says: "The fact that the supremacy of this reactionary clericalism in matters educational in Ireland is an entirely modern thing, a usurpation consummated within living memory, is not sufficiently realised in England." Mr. O. Eltzbacher does not include the attitude of the Radicals to the Education Bill among the new developments within the Liberal Party, which he criticises in a vigorous and suggestive article in the "Monthly Review". He looks at the recent history of the Party mainly as affected by the Colonial question, and shows how the Radicals have drifted into antipathy to the Colonies. They are, he says, opposing preferential trade, not so much because it might prove harmful but because it would be contrary to Cobden's dogma of free trade. "It is strange to find so much blind unreasoning dogmatism, so much of the unpractical and doctrinaire, in a party which claims to be lib

increase of indirect taxation".

It will probably be long before we shall hear the last of the lessons of the war. In the "Monthly" General Brabant has a good deal to say concerning the officer and writes strongly as to the treatment of certain young officers of irregular regiments, who, when the need for their services was over, were "driven out by the sons of the nouveaux riches". General Brabant says emphatically that the extravagance of living in the army can be suppressed, and proposes the accomplishment of that end by stringent orders making for simplicity and economy. In the "Contemporary" "An English General Officer" reviews a French study of the Boer war, and says that the application of the lessons learnt does not depend on any articles in the "Revue des Deux Mondes" or the "Contemporary" but on the fact that the army has gone through the war. "What has been assimilated through the trusted eyes

will have a very different effect from anything that has been taught through the untrusted ears". In "Blackwood's" the article "On the Heels of De Wet" is as interesting as ever and affords a very vivid picture of the sort of thing officers and men had to endure. Among the miscellaneous articles which should not be missed is "Blackwood's" review of University budgets under the title "Mere Children in Finance". Dr. Max Nordau in the "Fortnightly" indicates "The Conditions of Success"; his article will of course be read with interest, but it regards success too much from the American standpoint of dollars to be quite pleasing and concludes with some recommendations which ambition will never elect to follow. Mr. J. B. Firth gives in the "Fortnightly" an account of the Bodleian library, which is also referred to in "Blackwood's" Musings.

No fewer than three new magazines make their appearance this month—the "Hibbert"—a philosophical and religious review which promises to be a notable addition to the organs

this month—the "Hibbert"—a philosophical and religious review which promises to be a notable addition to the organs of serious thought; the "Treasury", a Sunday magazine to be run on popular lines; and "Indian Education", a magazine which should do something to further the views of those who would bridge the gulf between Eastern and Western culture. "It appears to us", says the Editor, "that one of the tasks of an educational journal at this moment is to defend the memory and the work of the great men who founded Western education in India".

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#### FRENCH LITERATURE.

Pour arriver au Bonheur. Par Georges Sauvin. Paris: Plon. 1902: 3f. 50c.

Plon. 1902: 3f. 50c.

Had we to name the gloomiest moments of our life we might possibly select those which we spent some years ago in the society of a number of debaters whose theme was "How to be happy". As the orators themselves were melancholy, not one of them was qualified to take part in such a discussion. An hour, two hours, passed—but no one became happier. Finally arose a lady, who, after looking pityingly upon the speakers, announced in deep, deep tones, "Be good, and you will be happy". (Incidentally, we may observe that the next debate was "How to be good".) Perhaps M. Georges Sauvin was present upon the first occasion, and, if he was, he has evidently remembered the lady's impressive words, "Pour arriver au bonheur" you have only to follow the straight path... but M. Sauvin's is a long, long path and we are very, very unhappy when we reach the end of it. He claims that his book is "honest and healthy", and we are not prepared to deny that statement; but we doubt whether, for those reasons, he is justified in being "persuaded" that it will "find" readers. Also, we cannot admit that his is a "tender" story. Nothing tender is there about the Comtesse d'Antignac and her niece, Madeline, the heroine; nor yet about Robert d'Antignac, a lieutenant in the navy, the hero. The Countess is mediocre, Madeline and Robert are colourless and stupid, and their unhappiness is quite unnecessary. Here, briefly, is the plot:—Robert goes to see and during his absence Madeline marries madeline, the heroine; nor yet about Robert d'Antignac, a lieutenant in the navy, the hero. The Countess is mediocre, Madeline and Robert are colourless and stupid, and their unhappiness is quite unnecessary. Here, briefly, is the plot:—Robert goes to sea and during his absence Madeline marries de Tarieux, a mondain, who leaves her a few days after the marriage; and when Robert returns he and Madeline discover that they love one another, and yet Madeline refuses to explain why her husband has left her. Consequently, unhappiness. Moreover, mystery. Why, in the name of common sense, does not Madeline speak out? Her silence does not spare a scandal, for "le tout Paris" marvels, gossips, calumniates. Robert broods, despairs; the Countess and an old family friend, sigh and wring their hands, Madeline becomes pale, everyone, in fact, is unhappy. Only on page 268 is the secret disclosed, and it is not much of a secret. The husband left for Canada alone, and he had committed no crime. But by the terms of his father's will he could not inherit the family estates until he married, and so he married Madeline and . . . left her. Again—why did not Madeline speak out? Hers was not a heroic, an admirable silence: it caused unhappiness, scandal. Why, Robert nearly went off on a dangerous cruise, almost provoked de Tarieux to fight a duel; he might have died of fever or been run through by a sword. Perverse, most obstinate Madeline! But no one reproaches her, and M. Georges Sauvin actually makes Robert say in a final speech, "You have had the rare courage and force to do your duty". Then—"gravely"—"Cela prouve simplement qu'il faut marcher tout droit pour arriver au bonheur". Madeline, in fact, has been "good"—good according to M. Sauvin's story may be pardoned by the very kind critic on the score of the author's inexperience (until now he has only written about Chicago and the West Indian Islands), but it is impossible to excuse his style. A school-boy would not be caught playing such havoc with tenses, passing from present to

Un Séjour à l'Ambassade de France à Constantinople sous le Second Empire. Par la Baronne Durand de Fontmagne. Paris: Plon. 1902. 4f.

We have cordially to congratulate Madame de Fontmagne on much of an achievement: she has produced an enter-taining and at the same time a modest volume of memoirs.

It is pleasant to notice the absence of those usual autobiographical touches—complaints, reflections, and the rest. We have not to hear that the author rose at sunrise and so was "dead beat" at dusk; and when we get criticism the criticism is at once shrewd and humorous. Enlightening, also, are Madame de Fontmagne's personal experiences—for they are invariably related in clear and convincing fashion. However, her position at Constantinople after the termination of the Crimean War was by no means official. She was the guest of the French Ambassador, M. Thouvenel, whom she held in the highest esteem; and as a guest she recognised the necessity of discretion. Thus, although the famous Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, with his reputation for despotism, inspired her with something akin to aversion, she, like a typical Parisienne, evidently used all her charms at their first meeting. The great Ambassador's merciless severity would naturally have provoked the anger of the refined, unpractical woman of the Faubourg S. Germain, but Madame de Fontmagne was herself a diplomatist. She ignored the occasional friction between the French and English Embassies, and it is gaily—not maliciously—that she relates how, upon introducing one of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe's attachés, a distinguished personage remarked, "This is one of the rare attachés who has not died or gone mad in His Excellency's service." Soon, however, our author recognised the English Ambassador's genius, greatness; but she cannot conceal the fact that she had a greater admiration for M. Thouvenel, her host. "Nos diners", she writes, "sont généralement très intéressants. C'est l'heure où M. Thouvenel, momentanément dégagé de ses soucis politiques, se laisse aller à toute la verve de son esprit. C'est un feu roulant d'anecdotes et de bons mots. Il a vu tant de gens et tant de choses." Innumerable dinners! Madame Fontmagne enjoyed the most lavish hospitality—for each ambassador was anxious that his fête should be the finest. Nevertheless, the enjoyed the most lavish hospitality—for each ambassador was anxious that his fête should be the finest. Nevertheless, the most careful exchange of courtesies; never were diplomatists more diplomatic. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe undoubtedly more diplomatic. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe undoubtedly inspires awe, but nothing (apparently) more disagreeable. In fact, a polished, a hospitable company; and a good time of it. Unfortunately, we have not space enough to record our author's impressions of the Turks themselves, of Turkish customs, but we may say that they are always interesting. The last two chapters contain the most entertaining and instructive information on Turkish women of fifty years ago, on marriages and matrimonial relationships, on dress, on slaves and children; and we visit Turkish baths, and we hear something about the Sultan's harem. Also, we get anecdotes, gay and sinister: Sultan's harem. Also, we get anecdotes, gay and sinister; and we must not forget to mention Madame Fontmagne's picturesque description of some corners of Constantinople. In fine, these memoirs should be read; and we venture to predict that, once read, they will be read again and remembered.

Penstes. Paris. 1902.
An anonymous book, issued by an anonymous publisher, bearing no price—and with reason! So far the author has displayed a certain modesty, but within the covers he becomes a frantic egoist—we had almost said, lunatic. The bourgeois—the implacable enemy of the artist—must be exterminated, and the artist must be supported by the State. Infinite license for the artist! He must got be hurred ordered to work. He for the artist! He must not be hurried, ordered to work. He must be allowed to idle and dream if he likes, and produce his must be allowed to idle and dream if he likes, and produce his picture or his book when he himself thinks fit. And the State must pay, pay; and everyone must soothe, admire, worship the artist. Thus, incoherently, for some fifty pages; and afterwards—love. An attack upon the Parisienne, in fact, who does not adequately appreciate the artist. She, too, must help him; indeed, she should live for him. And then, with the support of the State, the blind devotion of woman, the artist will not fail to create masterpieces. However, this outburst is pardonable—for the author is undoubtedly very young and also disappointed. We notice a scathing reference to a publisher, a bitter passage devoted to a "blonde". Later on, quite suddenly, he curses both; but towards the end of the volume he is good enough to pity the "blonde", kind enough to deplore the idiocy of the publisher. "You will hear of me again", he concludes magnificently. For our part we have heard enough already, and so, no doubt, have the lady and the publisher.

For This Week's Books see page 438.

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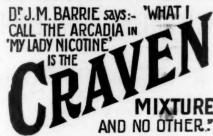
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#### LANGLAAGTE DEEP, LIMITED.

#### FROM THE DIRECTORS' QUARTERLY REPORT TO JULY 31st, 1902.

WORKIN	1G	EXPEN	DITU	JRE	AND	REV	EN	UE.	U.			
Dr.						Co	st.		Co		per i	
To Mining Expenses			**	. 4	£	6,078	4	0	So	17	2"	997
Milling Expenses						4,021	18	0	0	2		924
Cyaniding Expenses			0.0	0.0		3,833	12	1	0	2	6.	129
General Expenses			0.0			4,317	4	2	0	2	IO'	
Head Office Expense	5	**	0.0			1,068	4	3	0	0	8.	478
Working Profit						39,319	2 10	6	0	6 8		97 247
					£	51,822	13	7	£ı	14	3*	345
Cr.						Valu	ie.		Val	ne p		on
By Gold Account				**	£	51,822	12	7	£i	14	3*3	345
Dr.									-	_	_	_
To Interest and Exchange	е		**						611	106	15	H
To Credit Balance for		e period									14	2
									£12,	503	10	3
Cr.									-	_		
By Balance, Working Pro	ofit,	brought	down						£12.	503	10	1

NOTE.—The 10 per cent. Tax on Profits which has been imposed by the Government of the Transvaal has not been allowed for in the above figures.

The Capital Expenditure for the period under review has amounted to  $\pounds 959$  198. 8d.

In June last the Directors decided to issue the Company's 102,000 Reserve Shares, and accordingly in terms of the Company's Articles of Association these Shares were offered to Shareholders fro rata to their holdings as at 8th August, 1902, at a price of £4 per share, the issue being fguaranteed by the Rand Mines, Limited, at £4 per share.

A Special General Meeting of Shareholders has been convened to be held in the Board Room of Exploration Building, Johannesburg, on the 2nd September, 1902 for the purpose of amending the Company's Articles of Association in such a way as to give the Directors power to increase the capital of the Company from £750,000 to £800,000 by the creation of 500,000 new shares at £1 each, such new shares to be issued by the Directors from time to time upon such terms and conditions as they may think fit.

The Fifth Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders will be held in the Board Room of Exploration Building, Johannesburg, on Wednesday, 15th October next,

## GLEN DEEP, LIMITED.

#### FROM THE DIRECTORS' QUARTERLY REPORT TO 31st JULY, 1902.

#### WORKING EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE.

Dr.				Co	it.				er 1	on
To Mining Expenses		9.0	0.0	£12,978	13	7	Lo	9	5'9	18ç
Milling Expenses				7,159	18	9	0	5	2 %	79
Cyaniding Expenses				7,198	7	4	0	5	3°	17
General Expenses		**	0.0	3,931	8	20	0	2	10'	26
Head Office Expenses		**		1,413	10	7	0	1	0'4	13
Working Profit		••		32,681 6,653			X O	3 4	11'0	
				£39,335	13	0	£1	8	9*	153
Cr.				Val	ne.		Value		er T	on
By Gold Account		**		£39.335	13	0	£x			153
To Interest and Exchange		**					 £2.	480	17	3
Net Profit					0.0		 4.	172	17	3
							£6,0	653	14	6
By Balance, Working Profit	, brough	at down					 £6,	653	74	6

Note.—The 10 per cent. Tax on Profits which has been imposed by the Government of the Transvaal has not been allowed for in the above figures.

The Fifth Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders will be held in the Board Room of Exploration Building, Johannesburg, on Wednesday, 15th October next.

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CONSULTING ENGINEER. - JOHN HAYS HAMMOND. GENERAL MANAGER.-R. M. RAYMOND.

SECRETARY .- J. H. M. SHAW.

SOLICITORS.

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PABLO MARTINEZ DEL RIO, Mexico City.

## REPORT and STATEMENT of ACCOUNTS for the period ending

To this must be added (carried forward from	n the pr	evious year)	0.0	79,850	5	4
	Makin	g a total of		£283,811	2	1
This amount has been appropriated as followed	lows :					-
Dividend No. 3 and Income-tax				€68,679	8	(
35 35 4 44 44 44 44				73,500	0	
Written off for Depreciation of Plant				73,500	0	-
	* *	** **			0	
, Somera No. 1	• •		0.0	8,484	8	. 6
Leaving a balance, which it is proposed	to carry	forward, of	**	39,647	5	1
				Ca82 8xx	-	-

CAPITAL.—The issued Capital remained unchanged during the period under review at £980,000; but at a meeting held on 17th July, 1900, the authorised Capital was increased by 150,000 Shares of £c each, making a total of 1,150,000 Shares, of which 1,080,000 have been issued, leaving 70,000 Shares in reserve. Of the 100,000 Shares then offered to the Shareholders, 81,989 were subscribed by them at £1 5s. per Share, and the balance of 18,011 have been allotted to the guarantors at £1 4s. per Share.

DIVIDENDS.—
DIVIDENDS.

at £1 4s. per Share.

DIVIDENDS.—

Dividend No. 3, of 1s. 3d. per Share was paid on the 31st July, 1901,

1, 18. 6d. , 1 1st Jan., 1902,

1, 5, 15, 15. 6d. , 1, 30th June, 1902.

PROVISION FOR DEPRECIATION.—£20,000 has been written off for Depreciation of Plant as in the previous year.

DEEP LEVEL. The Somera property, comprising 268'11 acres, was purchased on the 26th July last, for the sum of £125,000, which has been provided by the above-mentioned issue of 100,000 new Shares, and does not therefore come under the statement of account now submitted. The reasons for this purchase were fully explained at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on the 17th of July, 1922, at which the purchase was resolved upon by the Shareholders.

The amount of £8,484 8s. 6d. written off, as shown in the accounts, has reduced the previous expenditure on this property to the actual amount paid as consideration for the option, namely £30,536 11s. rod.; the Directors consider it advisable to thus write off the whole amount spent on development, rather than to debit it to Capital Account.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT.—Annexed will be found a full control of the count.

sire of the option, namely £30,536 118. 10d.; the Directors consider it advisable to thus write off the whole amount spent on development, rather than to debit it to Capital Account.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT.—Annexed will be found a full report by Mr. P. L. Foster, to which the attention of the Shareholders is specially called as it treats in detail the working of the Mine and Plant for 11 months ending 30th June, 1902, and states most clearly and concisely the work done for the period and the position of the Company's property on that date.

ORE RESERVES.—During the period covered by Mr. Foster's report 99,138 dry 1018 of 07 to 180 years of 180

rotation in accordance with the Articles of Association, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The Auditors of the Company, Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths and Co., being eligible, offer themselves for re-appointment.

D. BADLING.

R. BARING, R. T. BAYLISS, Directors. J. H. M. SHAW, Secretary.

11 Cornhill, London, E.C., 27th September, 1902.
(N.B.—Where the & is used the American Gold Dollar is intended.)

## THE EL ORO MINING AND RAILWAY COMPANY LIMITED.

-	,	90411	unio, 10	70.41	
orised	••		£1,000,000	0 0	

ľo	Capital Authorised £1,000,000 0	0		
	Capital Issued, 980,000 Shares of &r each	€980,000	0	0
	Sundry Creditors Note.—There is a contingent liability for £5,600 in respect of Cyanide of Potassium purchased under contract, and not yet delivered	9,382	TI	0
	Sundry Sharcholders for Dividends	73,587	2	6
	Balance from Profit and Loss Account 28,476 8		5	1
		£1,102,616	18	7

By Property including Railway a Equipment, Machinery, Plant and tion	d Const	ing ruc-	20,2	6 8		£911,327	15	. 8
Somera Option as per last account Add Expenditure since		••	£27,123 11,887		5			
Less amount written off to re- the amount paid for the option		t to	£39,011 8,484	8	4	30,525		10
Stores Sundry Debtors Bullion in transit Draft in transit Cash in hand, at Bankets and on 1	Deposit	••	lt			30,529 21,087 8,129 40,961 9,000 81,583	18 6	7 2 5 0
*					-	1,102,616	-	7
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT I	FOR YEA	IR E	NDING 30	Ith	JUI	NE, 1902.		
To Mining Expenditure						£122,314		6
Railway Department Expenditure	**	**	** *		**	21,956	38	C
London Expenses					**	2,061		4
Directors' Fees					0.0	1,863		33.60
Somera Option Sinking Fund Depreciation of Plant, &c	**	**	**			8,484		
C	**				0.0	20,000	0	0
Distance No.	**	**				350		0
Dividend No. 4	• •	**	**		**	73,500	0	0
Balance to Balance-sheet					**	28,476	8	3

By Bullion recovered ... ... ... ... ... Railway Department Receipts ... ... Interest, Exchange, and Sundry Receipts ...

£352 506 14 10 .. £308,481 7 1 .. 42,605 1 4 .. 1,420 6 5

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies' Act, 1905, we certify that all our requirements as Auditors have been compiled with.

We report that we have examined the foregoing Accounts and Balance-sheet with the Books and Vouchers of the Company in London and with the audited returns from Mexico, and that, in our opinion, such Balance-sheet is drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Company's affairs, as shown by the Books of the Company.

DELOITTE, DEVER, GRIFFITHS, and CO, Chartered Accountants, Accountant 11 Cornhill, London, E.C., 27th Septem

#### LOCAL LOANS STOCK.

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#### ISSUE OF £2,000,000.

#### Minimum Price, £98: 10s. Per Cent.

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The Stock will be inscribed in the books of the Bank of England, and consolidated with the existing Local Loans Stock.

solidated with the existing Local Loans Stock.

As regards Security, quarterly payment of Dividends, transmission of Dividend Warrants by post, and exemption from stamp duty on Transfers, Local Loans Stock is on precisely the same footing as Consols.

Trustees are empowered under the Act to invest in this Stock.

The first quarter's dividend on this issue will be payable on the 5th January next. Tenders must be delivered at the Chief Cashier's Office, Bank of England, before a o'clock, on Wednesday, the 8th October, 1902, and a deposit of £5 per cent, on the nominal amount of the Stock tendered for must be paid at the time of the

delivery of the tender; the deposit must not be enclosed in the tender.

Where no allotment is made the deposit will be returned, and in the case of partial allotment the balance of the deposit will be applied towards the first

Tenders must be for even hundreds of Stock, and may be for the whole or any Tenders must be for even hundreds of Stock, and may be for the whole or any part of the Stock in multiples of £100. Each tender must state what amount of money will be given for every £100 of Stock. The minimum price, below which no tender will be accepted, has been fixed at £93 100, for every £100 of Stock. All tenders must be at prices which are multiples of sixpence.

In the event of the receipt of tenders for a larger amount of Stock than that to be issued at or above the minimum price, the tenders at the lowest price accepted will be subject to a pro ratio diminution.

The detection which the further payments on account of the Loan will be required.

The dates on which the further payments on account of the Loan will be required,

on Friday, the 17th October, 1902.

On Friday, the 18th November, 1902, \$45 per cent.

On Wednesday, the 18th November, 1902, \$25 per cent.

On Wednesday, the 18th November, 1902, \$25 per cent.

The instalments may be paid in tull on or after the 17th October, 1902, \$25 per cent.

The instalments may be paid in tull on or after the 17th October, 1902, under discount at the rate of \$65 per cent. per annum. In the case of default in the payment of any instalment at its proper date, the deposit and instalments previously paid will be liable to forfeiture.

Scrip Certificates to bearer, with coupon attached for the Dividend payable sth January next, will be issued in exchange for the provisional receipts.

As soon as these Scrip Certificates to bearer have been paid in full they can be inscribed (in other words, converted into Stock), or they can be exchanged for Stock Certificates to bearer in denominations of \$250.00, \$200, \$200, and \$2,000, on payment of a fee of one shilling per transaction, without regard to the amount of Stock affected thereby, provided such exchange is effected nor later than the 2nd March, 1903. After that date, the charge for obtaining Stock Certificates will be at the usual rate of two shillings per cent.

Applications must be made upon the printed forms, which may be obtained at the Bank of England, or any of its Branches; at the Bank of Ireland; and of Messrs. Mullens, Marshall & Co., 4 Lombard Street, E.C.

BANK OF ENGLAND,

3rd October, 1902.

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